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Airbus secrets 'safe' in East German deal

Technology sealed in £120m aircraft order

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

An unprecedented set of conditions to protect Western high-technology has been imposed on a breakthrough deal to sell the latest passenger jets to East Germany.

The £120 million order, secured by Airbus Industrie for three long-range A310 jets, is accompanied by the most stringent controls to make sure the Warsaw Pact countries do not steal the West's technical lead in aerospace.

The deal, the first involving the sale of the modern breed of airliner to the East Bloc, has been possible only now because of a dramatic improvement in East-West

relations after the Moscow summit and could open the way for huge sales of Western aircraft to Communist states.

Before the deal could go ahead Airbus, in which British Aerospace has a 20 per cent stake, had to convince the powerful American-dominated Co-ordinating Committee for Multi-lateral

A revolutionary aero engine designed and built by a five-nation consortium has been given the go-ahead for airline service. The V2500 engine, in which Rolls-Royce has a 30 per cent stake, has passed the detailed safety checks laid down by the American Federal Aviation Administration and was yesterday certificated to be installed in civilian jets. The engine has taken more than four years to develop.

Interflug six months ago and a formal proposal was put to Cocom by the French Government on behalf of Airbus Industrie three months ago.

At first it appeared that the committee, consisting of all Nato nations and Japan, would block the sale but it suddenly came up with a range of proposals for overcoming the objections soon after last month's Reagan-Gorbachev summit in Moscow.

Now Boeing is expected to be granted similar permission to sell its latest long-range 767 twin jets to the Polish airline, LOT, and is in the last stages of discussions with Cocom over the necessary protective agreements.

Talks are also going on with Rumania and Hungary about more orders both for Airbus and Boeing jets.

The communist countries have often complained bitterly that the Russian aircraft which until now they have been forced to buy are well behind the West in their technology, and that they are unreliable and costly to run.

They eventually persuaded the Russians that unless they were allowed to buy from Airbus, Boeing or McDonnell Douglas they would continue to run at heavy losses and that, because the Russian jets were noisier they could eventually be banned from airports trying to improve their environment.

Because of Interflug's links with Lufthansa it put Airbus in an unassailable position to finalize any deal which may eventually be struck while Boeing was able to use American links with Poland to make the sale to LOT virtually unchallenged.

Interflug is negotiating a specially favourable financial deal with a consortium of West German banks to buy the aircraft which will be delivered in June and December next year.

Although the purchase price has to be met in dollars East Germany is regarded as a good risk in international money markets.

British Aerospace will make the wings for the Airbus A310s which will then be flown to Toulouse for final assembly.

An Airbus spokesman said last night: "This is a very significant sale and marks the beginning of a new era

Control and which until now has regularly blocked attempts by Western companies to export such equipment, drew up a list of conditions to ensure that East Germany did not learn the secrets of the jet's advanced navigation aids, automatic monitoring equipment and American-designed General Electric engine characteristics.

It insisted that:

- All the sensitive units should be sealed in tamper-proof boxes and that if they needed replacement or repair they had to be returned to the West where spare parts must be held.
- Only day-to-day maintenance should be carried out by Interflug and that any other more important work had to be done by the West German airline, Lufthansa.
- No engineers should be trained in the East to look after the sophisticated electronic equipment or to repair the engines.
- All detailed drawings and documentation should be held by Airbus and Interflug should be given only the basic owner's manual to enable them to check the simplest of faults.

The East German deal was among the quickest aircraft orders ever to be finalized. First contact was made with

Most wanted man jailed



Wayne Hurran (above), the robber who shot three police officers as he escaped from a raid on a security van in south London, was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment yesterday at the Central Criminal Court after changing his plea. Public enemy No 1, page 5

Police alerted a year ago to danger signs at Barlow Clowes

By Lawrence Lever

The police were alerted at least 12 months ago to danger signs at Barlow Clowes, the investment group which crashed last month leaving investors facing losses of more than £100 million.

The Times has discovered that officers from the Regional Crime Squad in Manchester carried out investigations into Barlow Clowes after receiving information about the vast amounts of money being spent by people connected with Barlow Clowes on cars and the hire of private jets, for example. But the result of the police investigations appears to have been ignored.

Detective Inspector Joe Langlands of the Regional Crime Squad in Manchester yesterday confirmed that investigations were carried out last year.

He said: "Yes I have been interested in them (Barlow Clowes) for a while."

"I have quite a bit of information on them."

Det Insp Langlands declined to comment further on the police investigation into Barlow Clowes without the permission of his superiors.

However, it is believed that a considerable amount of information was relayed to the police authorities in Manchester, which is close to the Barlow Clowes head office at Poynton, Cheshire.

The information is believed to include a copy of a secret management agreement governing Barlow Clowes International, the Gibraltar division of Barlow Clowes, which received £138 million from investors.

This agreement revealed that the management of the money was in fact controlled through a private vehicle in Jersey, rather than Gibraltar, and indicated that the £138 million or most of it was kept in Jersey.

The police are also believed to have been told how huge sums of money were being transferred to and from a bank account with Lloyds Bank on the Isle of Man which had

connections with Barlow Clowes.

They were also made aware of large sums of money being spent by people connected with Barlow Clowes on the hire of private jets. The Lear and Gulfstream jets were used to fly people to national and international destinations, including the British Virgin Islands, the United States, Geneva, Gibraltar and the Isle of Man.

The police were also provided with the result of a DC Wilson & Partners Ltd, the Manchester firm which recommended thousands of investors to place their money with funds run by Barlow Clowes, has been suspended from trading. The action was taken by Fimbra, the watchdog for financial advisers and brokers.

Fimbra move, page 25

Many searches on several Barlow Clowes companies and on other companies linked with it.

The accounts of these companies, which are publicly available, showed little evidence of any large profits which could have been used to fund the type of extravagance being displayed.

The Regional Crime Squad in Manchester is known to have interviewed several people about Barlow Clowes in the course of its investigations last year.

People who provided the Regional Crime Squad with information were subsequently told that the file had gone into a "difficult" tray and no further investigation was carried out.

It emerged only last week that millions of pounds of investors' money placed with Barlow Clowes had been invested or lent out to a range of companies or ventures, many of which are of dubious value. About £37 million of investors' money is still missing.

The Department of Trade and Industry conducted an investigation into Barlow

Political system 'streaked with cruelty'

Methodist attack on Tories

By Clifford Longley and Richard Ford

The British political system and brand of capitalism were "streaked with cruelty", the Rev Richard Jones, incoming president of the Methodist Conference, told its opening session in London yesterday.

"What might be called the harsh underbelly of capitalism treats the poor with a mixture of contempt and patronising charity. The arguments adduced to justify that squalid injustice, even by the loudest political voices, would get short shrift from Wesley, and should do from us", he said.

Mr Jones, who is chairman of the Methodist church's East Anglia district, opened the week-long conference with a presidential address that is

likely to put church-government conflict as high on the Methodist agenda as it has been on that of the Church of England.

However, Conservative MPs launched a fierce counter attack last night against criticism from the churches on the thrust of the Government's policies to encourage enterprise. They accused Mr Jones of "overkill".

The Methodist annual conference, the church's governing body, is due to consider a report on the political state of Britain. Resolutions critical of government policy on health, social security and local taxation will also be debated.

In the year in which Meth-

odism has been celebrating the 250th anniversary of the conversion of its founder, John Wesley, Mr Jones offered what he thought would be Wesley's own reaction to the present political climate.

"I think we can surmise what Wesley would make of that moral shambles. He would contradict it, as we must, by a firm declaration that society is not to be seen in those terms at all. God has made us all one huge interdependent human network. "So God wills for us a vast confraternity, a great human network of mutual concern, shared responsibility, shared resources, in which justice

Tube fire inquiry closes

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

The deficiencies at King's Cross underground station, revealed during the inquiry into the fire in which 31 people died last November, "can be laid squarely at the door of senior management" of London Underground and London Regional Transport, it was stated yesterday.

Mr Roger Henderson, QC, counsel to the inquiry, who has led the presentation of evidence, was making his

closing submissions on the last of 91 days of public hearings, estimated to have cost more than £4 million.

It is expected that the report by Mr Desmond Fennell, QC, who has conducted the inquiry, will be published in about three months.

Mr Henderson warned that leaders of the Underground must refuse to accept "unpalatable judgements".

Details, page 5

TODAY

The Times Property Guide

Today's full-colour, 20-page Times Property Guide describes the appeal of garden squares and interviews the woman who created a home from a derelict mission hall

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PLUS NEW Accumulator

- With one daily prize winner yesterday (see page 3) Portfolio Accumulator stands at £86,000 today.
- Portfolio game: pages 29, 34

INSIDE

M50 killer
Police claimed a breakthrough in the hunt for the "motorway murderer" of Mrs Marie Wilks, issuing an artist's impression and a full description of the suspect. Drawing, details Page 3

Debt rescue
Small building societies are offering to bail out homeowners with debt problems. Family Money pages 30-34

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Fleet 'stretched to limit' alarms MPs

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Government's commitment to maintaining a modern navy of "about 50" warships is to be questioned severely in a damning report from the Commons defence select committee next week.

For some years, the committee has been concerned that the rate of ordering new frigates and destroyers has been far below what has been required. It has now had its fears amply confirmed.

The committee's report is expected to say that at any one time the number of ships ready for immediate action would be nearer 30 than 50.

It is likely to say that unless the rate of ordering is markedly increased, the only way the fleet will be maintained at "about 50" is by continually extending the life of the older ships.

It will suggest that the fleet is stretched to its limits given

its commitments to Nato, to patrolling the Gulf and to other duties.

It is likely to express deep alarm at these trends, particularly as, by the Ministry of Defence's admission, the Soviet sea threat is continually increasing.

In evidence to the committee, Mr Richard Mottram, Assistant Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Defence, insisted repeatedly that the fleet would be maintained at "about 50" warships.

He said that the lifespans of some ships had been extended. He said four Type-23 frigates were on order, and tenders for four more had been invited.

The MPs will say that over the past six years the MoD has ordered on average just one new warship a year, where it should have been between two and three.

Record savings at societies

Building societies took in £1.4 billion in new savings in May, a record for the month and the third highest ever. The inflow has topped £1 billion for four months in a row.

The figures, released yesterday, show that pressure has not yet built up for an increase in savings and mortgage rates despite recent increases in bank base rates.

Societies lent a record £4.4 billion for mortgages.

But another rise in base rates in Britain moved closer yesterday as sterling slumped against the dollar and slipped against other currencies.

Dealers believe that unless the May trade figures, to be published on Monday, are exceptionally good, base rates will go up again next week.

Money market rates rose to a level that indicated a half-point rise in base rates to 9.5 per cent.

Record lending, page 25

European anger at bank rejection

From Michael Dynes, Brussels

West German newspapers found it difficult to disguise their astonishment yesterday over Mrs Thatcher's statement to the Commons that a European central bank "would only come about with the dissolution of this House".

The daily *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* said bluntly: "The British Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, has dismissed the idea of a European central bank." As far as Mrs Thatcher was concerned: "Such an institution would only come into being if there was a United States of Europe with a sovereign government."

The paper reported that, in Mrs Thatcher's eyes, because the EEC was composed of independent governments, there could be no discussion about a European central bank.

The Bonn daily *General-Anzeiger* Bonn, said that Mrs

Thatcher had ended speculation over the future of a European central bank by her refusal to entertain the formation of a research group.

But Mrs Thatcher was reported by both newspapers as not ruling out any discussion on the composition of national currency reserves, and a possible expansion of the role of the European currency.

Commenting on Britain's reluctance to participate fully in the EMS, the Dutch business newspaper *Handelsblad* said on Thursday that "the refusal of Great Britain to enter the EMS is an example of its ambivalence towards the EEC. This refusal is justified with technical arguments, but it is in fact a consequence of the reluctance to give up any part of British sovereignty."

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Pope fails to find a saintly Austrian war hero

From Roger Boyes

Turn out the archives: somewhere there had to be a war hero in Austria. That was the mission facing the Pope's advisers as he set out on his Austrian pilgrimage, feted by President Waldheim, whose war record by his own admission falls somewhat short of heroism.

It is customary for the Pope on his many pilgrimages to beatify or canonize at least one Catholic of the country, often a martyr for the faith. This time, in view of the controversy surrounding President Waldheim — surrounding the ambiguous signals sent by his hand — it was regarded as shaking his hand — it was regarded as fitting to beatify an Austrian who died fighting Hitler. Unfortunately, no

suitable candidate could be found.

The original idea was to beatify or at least honour a Christian conscientious objector, Franz Jägerstätter, during the Pope's visit yesterday to Mauthausen. He was a farmer's son who refused to serve in the German Army, saying: "You would have to be a great artist indeed to follow every order in the Third Reich without coming into conflict with God's commandment. I am unable to do this. And so I would rather give up my rights in the Third Reich than my rights in God's Kingdom." Fine words, that led to his death in Mauthausen concentration camp. The

words, in the view of Vatican advisers, would have provided a useful counterpoint to the actions of Dr Kurt Waldheim, who, according to a commission of historians, must have known of crimes committed in the Balkans during his service as a German army lieutenant. As late as February Bishop Florian Kunter was convinced that Austria had found a truly appropriate war hero.

But then worried messages came from Rome. Apparently some of the Austrian hero's words had been manufactured after his death. Historical records show the martyr to have been a poorly educated, rather inarticulate man. And there was suspicion that he had acted politically and not solely out of Christian

conviction. The scramble was on for a new candidate. There are martyrs in Austria — 20 Austrian priests died in the camp. But with time running out it was difficult to settle on one whose case was foolproof.

There was a Marian Father who criticized Hitler during a sermon — but by his own confession, he was a Socialist. Other priests involved in the resistance either still have doubts lodged against them or their cases have not been fully processed. The Pope was able to praise only one war hero, who was blessed already last year — Marcel Callo, who died of exhaustion in Mauthausen in 1945. But Callo, a Frenchman who worked in Germany, has no connection with Austria, apart from dying here.

NEWS ROUNDUP

New rail threat as talks collapse

British Rail could face further industrial action after the failure of talks yesterday aimed at ending the overtime ban by 5,000 rail technicians.

The management told the National Union of Railwaymen that it was not willing to renegotiate a pay and conditions package it implemented last month.

The overtime ban, which has had little impact, could lead to 24-hour strikes by the signals and telecommunications staff.

Meanwhile, it was yesterday announced that postmen have accepted a new pay offer worth more than 10 per cent over the next eighteen months. Counter clerks and clerical workers also agreed a deal which gives them a £6-a-week increase under a one-year settlement.

Nurses rebuff union

The electricians' union was told by the Royal College of Nursing yesterday that it had no intention of joining an alternative TUC. Mr Roy Sanderson, the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union's white-collar officer, has approached a number of trade unions and staff associations outside the TUC to test opinions. His union looks set to be suspended from the TUC for refusing to abandon two single union deals. The electricians still plan to hold a one-day conference on July 4 with other non-TUC unions.

Poll tax amendments

The Government last night agreed to make more people exempt from the proposed poll tax, including homeless people sleeping rough. Amendments to the Local Government Finance Bill have been tabled after ministers admitted the impossibility of collecting the charge from those living in cardboard boxes. Residential community service volunteers will also be exempt, and people living in general purpose hotels will have to pay only 20 per cent of the charge.

Drugs cash sought

The Government, encouraged by the co-operation of British banks in the fight against drug trafficking, is to speed up talks aimed at securing help from European banks. Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, said yesterday: "It is too easy for a drug trafficker to squirrel away his gains in some foreign bank vault. So we are working hard to negotiate a series of agreements with other countries under which we would agree to confiscate the assets of each other's drug traffickers." Treaties had been signed with the United States and Canada and he hoped agreement was near with the Bahamas, Australia and Switzerland.

UB40 guitarist jailed

The bass guitarist with the pop group, UB40, was jailed yesterday after a road crash in which his brother was killed. Earl Falconer, aged 29, of Willows Road, Balsall Heath, Birmingham, admitted at Birmingham Crown Court causing the death of his brother, Ray, by reckless driving last November. Mr Michael Garrett, for prosecution, said Falconer had almost twice the legal alcohol limit in his blood when he crashed after approaching traffic lights at up to 80 mph. Judge Dillon jailed him for 18 months, with 12 months suspended, and banned him from driving for three years.

Triplets for girl of 15

A girl aged 15 has given birth to triplets, all boys, at a hospital in Scotland. The mother, who cannot be named for legal reasons, will celebrate her sixteenth birthday next month and then plans to marry the father. The babies were delivered by caesarian section.

Kasparov trough puts compatriot in the clear

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

Gary Kasparov, the world chess champion, appears to have sunk into a trough of despondency in the World Cup at Belfort, France.

In spite of achieving highly favourable positions against Hubner, Spelman, Spassky and Hjaranson, the Russian could do no better than draw.

The lead in the £200,000 (£108,000) tournament has been seized by Jan Ehlvest, Kasparov's lesser known compatriot, who registered a brilliant victory in the eighth round against Ulf Andersson, the usually impregnable Swedish grandmaster.

Britain's Nigel Short has also been struggling. He has not won a game and suffered a severe defeat at the hands of Johann Hjaranson, the Icelandic grandmaster, in the seventh round.

The only ray of hope is an

adjourned eighth round game against Ljubojevic, the Yugoslav grandmaster, where Short has two extra pawns and some prospects of victory.

Leading scores after eight rounds: Ehlvest 6; Kasparov 5½; Karpov 5; Sokolov (USSR), Spassky (France), Hubner (West Germany) 4½.

Ehlvest's eighth round win against Andersson was the outstanding game of the tournament so far. Ehlvest, playing with the white pieces, decided the game by a remarkable and quite unexpected rook sacrifice on move 19.

10 0-0-0 R6
11 R62 N6
12 R62 B7
13 R61 Q-2
14 R65 Bx3
15 R62 b4
16 R62 Qx7
17 R62 Qx7
18 R62+ N6
19 R62+ N6
20 R62+ N6

IRA helicopter shooting claim greeted with glee

By Paul Valley

The claim by the IRA that it had fired armour-piercing bullets into the first British Army helicopter to be shot down in Northern Ireland was received with undisguised glee in South Armagh yesterday.

There were cries of approval in bars throughout the area when the claim was reported on the lunchtime news bulletin. On the streets, in shops and in filling stations comments with varying degrees of vehemence could be heard from the local people.

Overhead, every few minutes, the insistent clatter of another helicopter could be heard, like malignant insects weaving an endless web around the Army helicopter base at Bessbrook. South Armagh is known

to British soldiers as "bandit country".

The area is mainly Roman Catholic in population and heavily republican in sympathy. Irish tricolours fly from lampposts and telegraph poles throughout the area. It is regarded as a perfect haven for IRA gunmen and bombers who can survive only where the local population is prepared to give them succour.

More than that much of the county is within a few miles of the Republic. The long straggling border, with its sparsely populated rural landscape criss-crossed with narrow country lanes, is ideal terrain for ambushes.

Here the Army travels only rarely by road and, until now, the helicopter was the safe means of

transport. With their high-definition "Heli-telly" cameras and high-powered "Night-Sun" spotlights, which cut like swords of white light through the night sky, they are also one of the Army's most effective surveillance mechanisms.

Bessbrook is said by aviation experts to be the busiest helicopter airport anywhere in Europe. The sky is abuzz with the craft.

Heavy double-rotor Chinooks ferry cargo from one military position to another. Wessex choppers carry troops in and out of the areas which they are to patrol.

Lighter Lynxes, like the one which was forced into what the Army calls a "precautionary landing" when an IRA machine-gun damaged its tail on Wednesday, manoeuvre tightly over the trees on surveillance work.

The craft are a loud and intrusive reminder to the local population of the British Army presence in the province.

Even those local nationalists who disapprove of IRA violence object to the presence of the helicopters which fly low and noisily through the nearby housing estates. Local people say that often they fly at less than roof-top level through the streets.

Yesterday, with security around the base on a renewed alertness, the craft flew in and out, one every few minutes. One fast little Lynx flew in a dramatic tacking manoeuvre over the houses, moving both from side to side and up and down. A Wessex flew in low, in a tight curve, clinging to a line of trees.

For some time the Army has been

bracing itself for the first downing of one of the craft. One of the chief fears is that the IRA now possesses surface to air missiles, allegedly supplied by Colonel Gaddafi in the four consignments of high-tech Libyan weapons which entered the Republic last year.

At Bessbrook yesterday forensic science experts were examining the damaged Lynx tail. So seriously were the Army taking the incident, which augurs ill for the future, that yesterday the area from which the gunfire came was still sealed off.

The IRA almost certainly possesses FN general purpose machine-guns (GPMGs). Some reports indicate that it may have Russian 12.7mm anti-aircraft guns from Libya, though some security experts doubt it possesses SAM missiles.

Minister in pledge to halt benefits office chaos

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

The Government said yesterday that it would urgently consider both agency management and its social security offices, and moving as much of its social security work as possible out of London.

These were central recommendations of a shocking internal Department of Health and Social Security report released on Thursday. The report said that standards of service in some local social security offices were "appalling", that staff morale was low, and that parts of the administration and management were chaotic.

Mr Michael Portillo, Under Secretary of State at the department, said Miss Margaret Moodie, the assistant secretary who wrote the report, had made the case "very convincingly" for moving work out of London and other places where it was difficult to recruit and retain staff.

This could ultimately benefit a quarter of all local offices. "We shall look at that and we shall be looking to come forward with some plans very quickly," he said in a BBC radio interview.

A separate report by DHSS Civil Servants released on Thursday recommended that 2,000 staff working at the department's headquarters be moved to the regions.

Mr Portillo also said that there was a "lot of sense" in the proposal that all local social security operations be put under independent agency management and be run "in a more sensitive manner".

The network of DHSS offices has been earmarked as an important area of government activity which could be put under agency management.

Asked why the social security system was in such disarray nine years after the Conservatives came to power, Mr Portillo said the Government had taken two important steps to improve matters. It had simplified the benefits system so that claims could be assessed quicker and more accurately. It was computerizing "a pace of knots" to produce a more efficient system.

Last night Dr David Owen, the SDP leader and former health minister, called for the integration of the tax and benefit system.

Miss Moodie, leader of the four-strong team of Civil Servants who prepared the report, is an active member of the Association of First Division Civil Servants.

Despite trenchant criticism in the report of the activities of the National Union of Civil and Public Servants in local DHSS offices, Miss Moodie is a leading light in the FDA. She joined its executive committee in June last year.

Before taking the six-month assignment to lead the scrutiny team she has done various jobs in the Department of Health and Social Security, but none in social security administration.

Direct experience of life in local DHSS offices was supplied by the other members of the scrutiny team, Mr Neville Mizen, Mr Robin Heron and Mr Bob Mackay.

Miners' lives may be at risk



Mr Prescott lighting the way with a lamp given to him by Nacods (Photograph: Tom Kidd).

Privatization of British Coal will bring more deaths and serious accidents, Mr John Prescott, Labour's energy spokesman, warned yesterday. In a speech to the annual conference of the National Association of Colliery, Overmen, Deputies and Shotfriers (Nacods), he warned that "privatization could, quite literally, put miners' lives at risk".

Mr Prescott said the accident rate in small, private licensed mines last year was four times the rate in British Coal mines. In the first four months of this year two people had died in 160 private mines employing 3,000 people.

Two people had also died in 94 British Coal mines employing 88,000 miners. Private licensed mines had seen nine deaths and 74 serious injuries in just over three years.

Officials of the National Union of Mineworkers were yesterday split over conciliation talks with the breakaway Union of Democratic Mineworkers.

The division within the NUM executive means no recommendation on the issue will go to the union's annual conference, which starts in Great Yarmouth on Monday.

Thyssen offer is defended

By Sarah Jane Checkland

Distinguished members of the art world spoke out yesterday against opposition to the offer of a permanent home for the Thyssen-Bornemisza collection of paintings.

The Government, supported by the Prince of Wales, has offered £100 million to Baron Thyssen-Bornemisza, owner of the collection, and the promise of a special museum to house it.

Sir Hugh Leggett, secretary of Heritage in Danger and a

member of the Museums and Galleries Commission, which recently requested £21 million to stop the decline of national museums, said: "Most people are in favour of this marvellous, magnificent gesture on the part of the Government".

Opponents of the offer, including Professor Michael Kitson, of the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art, and Sir Michael Levey, former director of the National Gallery, were "cutting their

own throats". Sir Hugh said: "They are approaching the matter the wrong way round".

The purchase would be "the greatest artistic coup of the twentieth century".

Sir Hugh suggested that the collection could be housed at Somerset House, central London, part of which is being adapted to house the art history school and Impressionist painting collection of the Courtauld Institute.

Leading article, page 9

NHS 'must stress quality'

By Jill Sherman
Social Services
Correspondent

The Government yesterday called on health authorities to provide higher quality care and more personalized services for their "customers".

Mr Antony Newton, the Minister for Health, emphasized that patients should be treated as individuals and not just cases taking up beds.

At the same time hospitals had to pay more attention to the actual standards of treat-

ment by assessing outcomes of clinical care.

Addressing the National Association of Health Authorities at its annual conference at Harrogate in North Yorkshire, Mr Newton accused the authorities of making "patchy" progress in efforts to attain better care as well as a greater quantity of services. "I would like to see a coherent and positive approach by all health authorities", Mr Newton said. "That means chairman and health authority

members have to look at a continuing systematic interest in the quality of service they provide."

He praised in particular the "personal services" package announced this week by Trent regional health authority, where staff at every level are actively encouraged to welcome patients.

Earlier conference delegates called on the Government to give health authorities the power to limit the mushrooming of private nursing services.

Tory office that turned to jelly

By Ronald Faux

It could have been a case of curiosity that yesterday took Mrs Margaret Thatcher to her old constituency headquarters in Finchley, north London. When the Tories moved out, the building was taken over by a company marketing a custard-looking substance claimed to have remarkable properties.

Regina Royal Jelly has been known to get rid of spots, aching joints and hangovers, and to improve the libido. It is said to improve energy, perk up most parts of the human system and to have doubled the bodyweight of a tortoise given up for dead.

In all, it does for humans what the Prime Minister claims Conservative policies have done for the British economy, but ostensibly Mrs Thatcher was there to congratulate Mrs Irene Stein and her staff for being good entrepreneurs, excellent exporters and everything the Government could hope for in small businesses.

The company was set up 14 years ago in Mrs Stein's front room. The royal part of the title comes not from any state appointment, although royalty are understood to have tried taking the jelly, but because it is the product of queen bees. The jelly, Mrs Stein explained, as the Prime Minister toured a laboratory, is that in which the queen bee gestates.

After a first invitation to

market the product from a Greek beekeeper, Mrs Stein tried it on herself and her family. She saw how her daughter's eczema, her mother's arthritis and her own hair, nails and skin all improved.

The company now exports six tons of the jelly each year from China and has a turnover of £3.4 million. It made an impressive debut on the nascent securities market.

The jelly is offered in capsules, pots, tubes and in a range of products for animals. "It tastes awful", one worker said. "But it really did wonders for my skin."

So far the jelly has defied attempts by science to reproduce it synthetically. The formula is known only to the bees so there is little chance the Chinese will lose business supplying the raw product.

Mrs Thatcher spent 40 minutes in the factory. The company exported 30 per cent of its production to 40 countries.

Had the Prime Minister tried the royal jelly herself? No, she said, but she would. Her family was very fond of honey, however.

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Youth in school gun attack 'obsessed by Hungerford killings'

By Craig Seton

A youth who was obsessed with the Hungerford massacre was ordered to be detained for life at Oxford Crown Court yesterday for a shotgun rampage at the school which had expelled him.

The court was told that Darren Fowler, aged 16, made out a will at his home before walking calmly to the Ferrers Comprehensive School, Higham, where he opened fire seven times with his father's single-barrelled 12-bore shotgun, injuring two teachers, one seriously, and two pupils.

Fowler went to the 700-pupil school, where he had been expelled four months earlier, carrying a bandolier of 25 shotgun cartridges around his waist and two sheath knives strapped to his legs after threatening to kill the boy friend of a girl who had rejected him.

The court was told that Fowler, who was expelled for constant disruption, had been taunted by other pupils and led a solitary life obsessed by weapons, warfare and survival and the power games gave to people who possessed them.

He told police he was going to kill himself after the attack, which took place at 3.30pm as the school broke up on January 6. His 10-minute rampage ended when a sports teacher tackled him on the ground.

Fowler, the eldest of four brothers, of Westfield Street, Higham, Ferrers, pleaded guilty to wounding Mr Michael Cousins, a deputy head, who was absent from the school for five months after being hit in the face with 12 pellets. He also admitted

wounding Ronald Sharritt, aged 16, a pupil, and assaulting Simon Druce, aged 16, another pupil, and Mrs Jean Lucas, a teacher.

Fowler further admitted possessing a firearm with intent to endanger life. His plea of not guilty to the attempted murder of Mr Cousins was accepted by the prosecution.

Mr Justice Tucker, sentencing Fowler to be held under Section 53 of the Childrens and Young Persons Act 1933, said: "It is a miracle no one was killed or blinded. People were struck in the face by pellets and one of them by glass. I am satisfied you were there intending to kill or wound another boy and once there you used the gun indiscriminately and in a highly dangerous way."

The judge said that although he was concerned to help Fowler, he was also concerned for the safety of the public. A psychiatrist had described Fowler as unstable, potentially dangerous and in need of professional attention.

Mr Graham Buchanan, for the prosecution, said Fowler was a solitary individual, described as a loner who did not make friends. He was subject to verbal abuse from other pupils who called him "smelly" or "gipsy" because of his poor personal hygiene.

He said Fowler was preoccupied with military matters, warfare and weapons and read magazines on combat and survival in the wild. He was also preoccupied with events at Hungerford, Berkshire, last year and had it in mind "to do something similar in the area of his school or home town".

Mr Buchanan said. On the morning of the shooting, Fowler had accompanied his only friend, Simon Bates, to school and told him of a video film he had watched called *Critters*, in which a young boy borrows his father's shotgun to eradicate small, monster-like creatures.

The two boys met at the school gates at lunchtime and Fowler was winking at other pupils, indicating that he was going to "grease" or "kill" someone. Fowler returned home alone and found a key to a cupboard where his father's legally-held 12-bore shotgun and ammunition were kept.

He told police later that he had also taken matches and a length of twine for snaring rabbits in case he decided against killing himself.

Mr Buchanan said Fowler was looking for Jason Williams, aged 16, the boy friend of another pupil, Karen Arnold, aged 16, who had been pestered by Fowler but had rejected his advances.

Mr Buchanan said: "Fowler made it clear later that it was his intention to kill Williams". However, although Fowler saw the pupil three times, and a shot was discharged near him, he was uninjured.

Det Supt David Johnson, of Northamptonshire Police, said later: "Fowler had a very great interest in the Hungerford massacre and had studied the case history quite closely. He could discuss the details of that massacre with apparent authority with his friends. He said he would recommend Mr Paul Greenall, the physical education teacher who tackled Fowler, for a bravery award."

Baker leads charity walk to fight drugs



Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, leading a group on Hadrian's Wall yesterday raised £250,000 towards helping young people to give up drugs. Mr Baker, patron of the National Trust, English Heritage, and the National Endowment for the Arts, was accompanied by Mr John Hall, the entrepreneur

before he embarked on the walk with his wife Mary, and ex-drug abusers from a Liverpool-based group, the Newcastle University Solvent Abuse Clinic, and the London-based charity Addict. Others taking part in the walk included representatives of the National Trust, English Heritage, and Mr John Hall, the entrepreneur

responsible for building Europe's biggest shopping and leisure complex, the Metro Centre, on Tyneside. Mr Baker's interest in the plight of young drug addicts was kindled by a visit he made to the North-east where he was Secretary of State for the Environment. It was Mr Baker's third sponsored walk for the drugs

organization. In 1986 he joined a walk through the Lake District and, last year, one through Shropshire which raised £20,000. Later, he travelled to twelfth-century Aydon Castle, near Corbridge, Northumberland, where he put on medieval costume for a Crusader-style celebration with primary school children.

Father guilty of manslaughter

Delay 'could have cost baby's life'

By Michael Horsnell

A police officer is to give evidence to a Scotland Yard inquiry into his alleged part in the three-week delay of a report to social workers which might have saved the life of a baby boy starved by his parents.

The emaciated baby, Dean Scott, aged 10 months, died last August after his parents denied him food and water for a week.

Yesterday his father, former special constable Frederick Scott, aged 38, and his mother, Susan Poole, aged 21, were convicted of manslaughter by a jury at the Central Criminal Court on the direction of the judge.

Scott and Poole both admitted the manslaughter of their son yesterday, the fifth day of their trial for murder after Mr Justice Owen directed the jury to return not guilty verdicts on the murder charge.

The court heard that Poole's guilty plea was on the grounds of diminished responsibility. Sentence was delayed until Monday for medical evidence to be heard on behalf of Poole. Both parents also admitted a charge of cruelty to their elder son Michael, who is now in care, by wilfully neglecting him.

The court heard that the only food in the flat was for the family's black mongrel dog which was kept on the balcony.

The Department of Health and Social Security is to examine the case after calling for reports from the local authority and health authority.

Three weeks before the death Sgt Steven Bradbury investigated a relative's alarm call about the welfare of Dean and his brother Michael, aged two. The officer hauled Scott,

who was working as a security officer, out of a public house where he was drinking with the woman he was living with and demanded he should be shown that the children were safe.

The officer found Dean "looking skinny" in his cot with no one looking after him but it was up to four days before he filed a police form telling other agencies about the circumstances of his visit to the squalid flat where the family lived in Comber Grove, Camberwell, south London.

A further delay of more than two weeks followed in which time the report was passed to the police juvenile bureau, thence to Camberwell Magistrates' Court where it was eventually passed on to Southwark social services for onward transmission to the appropriate child care team.

Still awaiting its final transfer, the report was discovered by social services on August 23, three days after Dean's decomposing body was handed over by Scott to ambulance men.

Scotland Yard confirmed last night that an internal inquiry has recommended procedural changes to prevent such delays.

Officers are now being ordered to telephone social workers about all cases of suspected neglect or abuse as well as send a form direct to social service departments.

Two months before his death doctors at Kings College Hospital had decided he was not neglected but ill.

Last night Southwark Council said that the hospital diagnosis of an organic disorder meant there was no basis on which to activate child abuse procedures.

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Boost for hospital

Mr Terry O'Connor, aged 70, from Breda, near Rye, East Sussex, was the only winner of yesterday's Portfolio prize of £4,000. Mr O'Connor, who has had two major cancer operations, is to donate a portion of his winnings to East Grinstead hospital where he had the surgery.

He was delighted by what he described as "this wind-fall during the latter years of my life" and is looking forward to sharing some of the money with his daughter who is expecting her fourth child.

Four guilty of rampage on train

Four Millwall soccer supporters were yesterday found guilty of attacking a train full of rival fans.

The jury at Southwark Crown Court, south-east London, took more than 18-and-a-half hours to consider the verdicts and spent two nights at a hotel. The convicted men were in a 50-strong gang which went on the rampage in November 1986 as the train carrying Arsenal and Charlton followers pulled into New Cross Gate Station.

Witnesses said the gang, armed with knives, bottles and ammonia, chanted kill, kill, kill, while lashing out at passengers and police.

The four found guilty of affray were John Causton, a driver, of Marwood Way, Southwark; Mark Nicholls, unemployed, of Plough Way, Rotherhithe; Winston Morris, an unemployed labourer, of Dressington Avenue, Ladywell; and Norman Kent, of Gaywood Street, Brockley.

The jury was still considering charges against two other men.

Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, Chief of the Defence Staff, yesterday said football hooliganism was the result of a lack of discipline. He was speaking as he opened the Royal Navy's physical training headquarters at Portsmouth.

M50 murder inquiry

Police hunt thin, blond man

Detectives say they have achieved a breakthrough in the hunt for the murderer of Mrs Marie Wilks, who was killed after stopping to use an emergency telephone on the M50 near Longdon, Hereford and Worcester. They say the man may have been on his way to a Saturday night out and driving on the opposite carriageway.

They have also issued an artist's impression of the suspect. He is described as having been smartly dressed in a dark blue and white striped shirt and may have been wearing blue trousers.

Mrs Wilks, aged 22, who was seven months pregnant, was abducted last Saturday as she used an emergency telephone to report that her car had broken down. She was stabbed in the neck and her body was dumped at the bottom of a grassy embankment three miles further along the eastbound carriageway. Mrs Wilks bled to death after her jugular vein was severed.

The man's description was released after Det Chief Supt David Cole, who is in charge of the inquiry, had re-interviewed several of the 100 people who have come forward in response to police appeals.

Detectives believe that the suspect could have been on his way for a Saturday night out when he spotted Mrs Wilks as he drove his large silver-grey car along the opposite carriageway.

"There is some indication that immediately before stopping at the telephone kiosk, he had crossed over from the westbound to the eastbound carriageway", Mr Cole said.

"Nobody actually saw him do it, but it is an impression a witness got from the way his car was being driven. It is possible he may have seen Mrs Wilks making the call and then turned back over the carriageway."



"This man is a suspect and this is a highly significant breakthrough in our inquiry. I am satisfied the description can be corroborated by more than one witness. We are much nearer to tracking down the murderer, but at present I have no idea where he comes from."

The man was described as youngish-looking, in his twenties, and his distinctive blond hair in a crewcut hairstyle showed traces of yellow or light orange highlights. He had thin sharp features

Acne drug may prevent skin cancer

By Pearce Wright Science Editor

A drug used to treat severe acne can prevent skin cancer in some people, according to a research report published yesterday.

The scientists describe their findings as one of the first indications that drugs could prevent cancer in humans.

However, they are cautious about their conclusions. When prescribed as an acne treatment, the same drug has caused severe side-effects in some users.

The idea that a drug could be effective against skin cancer

was studied on a group of patients with xeroderma pigmentosum, a rare, inherited disorder that leads to a high incidence of a variety of skin cancers.

They were given an agent called isotretinoin, which is the active ingredient of Accutane, the acne treatment.

The five patients, aged 10 to 39, were studied for two years when they developed a total of 121 tumours.

They were then prescribed isotretinoin for two years and the number of tumours fell to 25.

But when they stopped taking the drug, tumours devel-

oped again at the original rate. But the report, published in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, recommends that until further research is completed isotretinoin should be used as an anti-cancer agent only in scientific studies involving patients who run a very high risk of developing multiple, dangerous skin tumours.

Dr John DiGiovanna, of the National Cancer Institute, at Bethesda, Maryland, in the United States, and a member of the research team, said at present the benefits of the drug were probably not great enough for most people to run

the risk of side-effects. Distribution of Accutane, made by Hoffmann-La Roche, was restricted in the United States last month at the request of the Food and Drug Administration after evidence of severe and often fatal birth defects to babies of mothers undergoing acne treatment.

In Britain it is only prescribed in hospitals by specialist skin clinics.

As its next step the research team is to test isotretinoin at lower doses, look for derivatives that avoid side-effects and see if it could be more widely tested for the prevention of cancer.

Newsgirl's attacker jailed

Raymond Hewlett, a child molester, snatched a newspaper delivery girl and subjected her to a 100-mile terror ride in his car, part of it in the boot, Mold Crown Court was told yesterday.

Hewlett, who had two convictions for attacking girls, was branded a dangerous man and jailed for six years. Throughout the nightmare journey, when he tried to have sexual intercourse with her, the girl aged 14 remained remarkably calm.

As she was bounced around in the darkness of the boot after the sex attack the girl tried to forget her nightmare

by thinking of the lessons she was missing back in school.

The court was told she was threatened with a knife and, while naked apart from her socks, was subjected to a sexual ordeal when she thought she was going to be raped.

The court heard the girl made an attempt to escape as she was driven to a quarry in North Wales. She abandoned any plans to escape when a knife with a six-inch blade was produced and then kept menacingly on the car seat.

When they arrived at a quarry at the Horseshoe Pass above Llangollen her attacker

held the knife to her face and started to undress her. The girl, who later told police she rarely panicked, told him there was no need for the knife and he kept it. In fear of her life she stripped at his command and Hewlett tried to have sexual intercourse.

She was then driven 50 miles in the boot and dumped in a wood near Ffestiniog. After walking in a daze for four hours she was taken to the police by a motorist.

Hewlett, aged 43, a father of three, of Wellsfield, Woodside in Telford, Shropshire, admitted kidnapping, false imprisonment and indecent assault.

The yuppie-mobile finds a home

Accelerating prices with a difference

By Robin Young

There is nothing like a Porsche to get them going down in the London Docklands.

Five riverside houses, languishing on the market since last October's stock market crash, have sold in a week at £370,000 each — once the incentive of a free Porsche 924 worth £23,000 was thrown in.

The cars, the yuppies' favourite runabouts, are not quite the generous discount they might appear, because the houses, at Blyth's Wharf, Narrow Street, in Limehouse, are £20,000 dearer now than they were just before the crash when two sold at £350,000 each.

Moreover the first phase of the 16-house development sold earlier last year at prices from just £315,000 to £325,000.

"We wanted something a little different to give our marketing campaign impetus in the peak selling season in June", said Mr William Johnston, of the

estate agency Egerton, which devised the Porsche promotion with the developers, Soldhome. "After the stock market crash we decided we would let things settle and give people time to find that they were not all going to lose their City jobs."

"The Porsches gave us just the right push when it was needed."

Mr Johnston insists that the houses, neighbouring Dr David Owen's famous home and with balconies overlooking the river, represent a first rate vehicle for long-term investment with or without a car. Each house has five bedrooms, three bathrooms, and a garage for the Porsche.

"The cost works out at only £170 a square foot compared with £250 to £270 a square foot for two-bedroom flats on the river in Docklands", Mr Johnston said yesterday, "and these are virtually the only freehold houses on the river from here to Hammersmith."

At least one customer takes a similarly

rosy view of the prospects for a house with a Porsche up front.

He has bought two — one to live and one to let. His wife, rather than the tenant, will presumably be getting the second Porsche.

There is parking in a private courtyard, if required for cars the customers already owned.

City homebuyers preferring the promise of real money to deals on wheels have another option. In Queenside House at Cascades, on the Isle of Dogs, Kentish Town is guaranteeing a 16% per cent increase over the next 18 months in the value of two and three bedroom flats currently priced at £136,000 to £285,000. If independent valuations do not come up to forecast, the developers promise to make good the shortfall "It is", the agent said yesterday, "a guarantee on which they are very unlikely to have to pay a penny."

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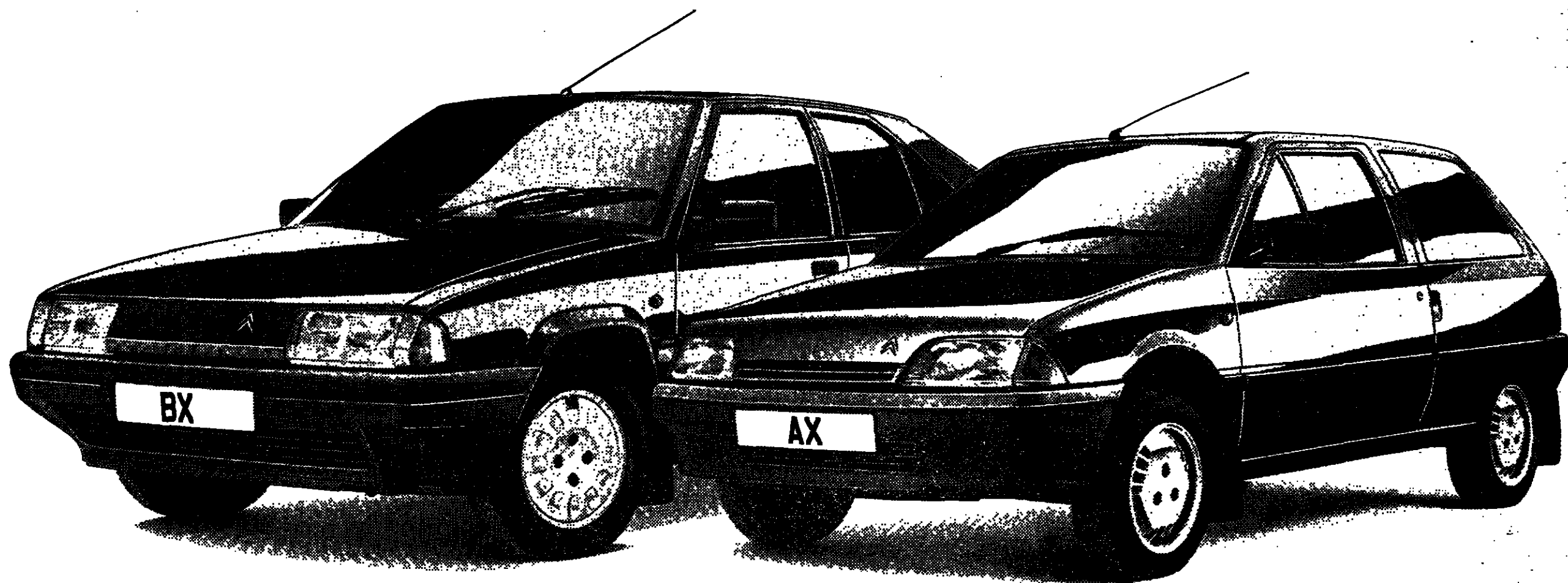
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AMOUNT FINANCED	£4,105.60	£3,079.20		£3,797.40	£3,513.00	£6,004.80	£4,503.60
LOAN PERIOD (MONTHS)	36	12	36	24	12	36	36
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House

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Robber did not hesitate to shoot anyone 'Public enemy No 1' jailed after changing his plea

By Andrew Morgan

A man who shot three police officers, disabling one for life, during a raid on a security van was yesterday given sentences totalling 159 years after pleading guilty at the Central Criminal Court.

Wayne Hurran, aged 27, admitted 10 charges of robbery, using firearms, attempted robbery and causing grievous bodily harm. However, Judge Pigot, QC, the Common Sergeant, made each of the sentences concurrent, meaning that Hurran will serve about 20 years.

He stole an estimated £1.7 million in four robberies, including the raid in March last year in Charlton, south London, where he shot the three officers who tackled him as he lay in wait for Group 4 security guards delivering £150,000 to a supermarket. Hurran escaped

but his accomplice, Nicholas Dunford, aged 21, from north London, was arrested.

Dunford was jailed for 11 years last Wednesday after he was convicted of conspiracy to rob and attempted robbery. Judge Pigot, QC, told Hurran, who changed his plea on the second day of the trial: "I am satisfied you are a dangerous and ruthless robber in the first division of armed robbers who are prepared to wound and kill for high stakes."

Hurran, top of the Metropolitan Police's wanted list for more than a year, shot two probationary officers, Police Constable Philip Rainsford, aged 22, in the leg, and PC John Healey, aged 26, in the stomach. The worst injuries were suffered by Sergeant David Hadaway, aged 40, who was crippled when

Hurran shot him through the thigh.

The officer, now walking with a stick and able to work for only three hours a week, went for Hurran with a truncheon and hit him over the head before being shot. The judge commended Sgt Hadaway for his gallantry. "The truncheon was just about as effective as a bayonet against a tank. He set an outstanding standard of courage for the men who were under him."

Just prior to the raid on the Group 4 van, Hurran stole £49,000 at gunpoint from a security guard outside a bank in Euston Road and escaped on a motor cycle. After the raid, he went to a public house with an accomplice, but the cycle was noticed. He threatened police with a Browning gun and escaped in a hijacked minicab, firing shots at his pursuers.

However, he left finger prints on a glass and those were matched with prints found at other robberies. Hurran fled to Tenerife, then The Netherlands and Belgium, with his wife and two children. He is believed to have invested most of the proceeds of the robberies in those countries.

In August last year, he returned for a raid on Sadler's Wells theatre, north London, and stole £75,000, again escaping on a motor cycle and firing at police. He was arrested in a house in Chingford, Essex, last October after it was surrounded by a dozen armed detectives. They recovered three hand guns and ammunition.

Mr John Bevan, for the prosecution, told the court that Hurran had been the leader of a loosely formed gang of robbers. "Hurran had no hesitation in shooting at anyone who got in his way."

During his remand in Brixton, south London, Hurran, unemployed, of Strawberry Vale Estate, Finchley, had no serious previous record. Last night, Det Chief Inspector John Bassett said: "In my book, he is public enemy number one. He is the most vicious and hardened criminal I have come across. I would say he is a hard, cold, calculating psychopath."

Hurran was both feared and respected in the underworld. Robbers knew that if he was on their team his audacity and ruthlessness would put cash in their pockets.

Sergeant Hadaway, from Greenwich police station, south-east London, who still has a bullet in his leg, said outside the court that as he shouted to Hurran "he turned round and pulled out a gun. He faced us and told us to get back. He pulled the trigger twice but it only clicked. Then, he took a second gun."

Sgt Hadaway added: "We had no guns and certainly seemed inadequate, but perhaps it is best that we are not armed. Those are the conditions most of us join in and we accept them."

PC Rainsford, who continued to chase after Hurran shot and broke his leg, said: "I approached him within a few feet and the gun went off. I didn't know that I was shot. I couldn't feel any pain."



The three officers shot by Hurran, from left, PC Philip Rainsford, Sergeant David Hadaway and PC John Healey.

Tube fire 'can be repeated'

Another "unforeseen incident" such as the King's Cross disaster could happen again, Dr Tony Ridley, chairman and managing director of London Underground, said yesterday.

But Dr Ridley, speaking at the King's Cross inquiry into the fire, said Underground managers were not complacent about safety, in spite of such accusations during the investigation into last November's fire.

"There are a number of things we have recognized as shortcomings and action is being taken whether or not these shortcomings in any way contributed to the fire at King's Cross", he said on the BBC Radio 4 programme Today.

"If there could be the unforeseen incident at King's Cross there could be an unforeseen incident elsewhere on the system and I can assure you that we are taking action to ensure this sort of thing doesn't happen again."

In future, equal priority will be given to congestion, crime and fire safety, Dr Ridley said.

Tube chiefs might refuse to accept "unpalatable judgements" from the inquiry into the King's Cross fire 31 people died, its last day was told yesterday.

The attitude of London Underground and London Regional Transport to the fire had caused "serious disquiet", Mr Roger Henderson, QC, counsel to the inquiry, said.

And there was a question mark over whether they would accept the vital lessons to be learned.

Mr Henderson, in his final submission to the record-breaking inquiry, which has lasted 91 days and cost an estimated £4 million, also called for "a major investment in safety".

He wanted a huge spending programme on safety improvements on the Underground, even greater than the size of the station modernization programme.

"The report to the Secretary of State will necessarily have to address the question of whether London Underground and London Regional

Final day of King's Cross disaster inquiry

Vital lessons 'may not be accepted'

The inquiry was conducted by Mr Desmond Fennell, QC, who was advised by four assessors: Major Anthony King, an inspecting officer of railways in the Department of Transport; Dr Alan Roberts, director of the explosion and flame laboratory at the Health and Safety Executive; Sir Peter Darby, former chief inspector

of fire services for England and Wales; and Professor Bernard Crossland, former pro-vice-chancellor of Queens University, Belfast, and president of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers.

It sat for 500 hours, examining more than 80,000 documents, 50 special reports, 13 videos and hearing 150 witnesses.

Transport are prepared to accept unpalatable judgements and to ensure that the lessons to be learned have been truly learned and are not rejected in the corporate minds and hearts of LUL and LRT", he said.

"The close personal involvement of Sir Keith Bright (LRT's chairman), first in the apparent promotion of the arson case and then in the promotion of LUL's corporate view, that the unexpected ferocity of the fire and its wholly exceptional speed of development must lie elsewhere than in the basic facts that this was a chimney lined on one side with many layers of paint, and on the

other side with many tons of wood into which a wooden staircase had been inserted, continuing to cause us serious disquiet."

Mr Simon Tuckey, QC, counsel for the makers of special paint used in the escalator shaft thought by London Underground to have been a vital cause of the disaster, had "expressly impugned the bona fides of LUL and LRT".

He had referred to "exculpation and compensation, in other words, saving skins and possibly money by spreading the blame".

Mr Henderson, referring to the arguments between scientists at the inquiry, said: "It

is our melancholy conclusion that London Underground was enthusiastic about supporting theories which their four experts have variously rejected and which fly in the face of a careful, detailed study of the evidence."

"We have been greatly exercised in our minds as to why such determined efforts have been made to attribute the unexpected rapidity of the development of the fire to the ceiling paint. This we leave to the court."

Earlier Mr Henderson, who began proceedings with his opening statement on February 1, said the disaster was "foreseeable" in law.

"Inexcusable logic that an unfought, well-fuelled fire would endanger lives was, in the circumstances, capable of being foreseen."

London Underground had tried to answer the logic by saying they had expected the fire would be controlled and that people would have been removed from the danger area. "But the evidence shows that there was no system in place to achieve such a reliable response."

City sheriffs win office

LORD MAYOR SHERIFFS CITY OFFICERS



Mr Francis McWilliams, an alderman of the City of London (left), and Mr Simon Block, a member of the Court of Common Council, in Guildhall Yard after their election as Sheriffs of the City yesterday. The position, pre-dating the Norman conquest, is the only elected shrieval office. They will be admitted formally in September. (Photograph: James Morgan)

Boycott fear over entry fee to village

Inhabitants of Clovelly in north Devon are apparently concerned that an entry fee introduced by the owner of the village will put off visitors to the detriment of local businesses.

Visitors must now pay 80p each to enter the famous cobbled high street and scenic harbour. About 300,000 tourists visit the village each year.

The landlord of Clovelly, which has a population of 200, is Mr John Rous, whose family have owned it for 250 years. He introduced the toll to pay for an £800,000 tourist centre that opened yesterday and the costs of maintaining the village.

He said residents and their friends and relatives would not have to pay the toll, but some residents are complaining that people living in the area will no longer visit. Until now they have paid only for car parking.

Fan charged

Paul Scarrott, aged 32, of Nottingham, who was deported from West Germany during the European football championships, was charged yesterday with obtaining money from the Department of Health and Social Security by deception and stealing £110 from a fruit machine.

Rail car listed

A nineteenth-century railway carriage at Withiel, near Bodmin, Cornwall, which has been home to one family for 55 years, has been declared a listed building by the Department of the Environment.

Bat check-up

Nearly 400 people spent early yesterday counting Durham's 2,000 bats in what the organizers said was the world's largest bat watch. Durham Bat Group set up the count to check on numbers and raise public awareness about bats.

Theft plea

A Liverpool Labour councillor who admitted three theft charges involving council expenses was yesterday jailed for four months. Stephen Wilde, aged 37, of Manrobert Crescent, Walton, claimed more than £300 for overnight stays he did not make. He was bailed pending an appeal.

Library order

More than 150 protesters who have occupied three east London libraries for the last 14 weeks to prevent their closure were yesterday given two weeks to leave, when the High Court granted possession orders to the London Borough of Hackney.

Crime offer

Police in Essex are to offer financial rewards to people who reveal the identities of criminals in a scheme to be launched next week.

PARLIAMENT

Hurd attacks 'stupid drinking'

Stupid drinking undoubtedly lay at the heart of much minor crime and indeed major crime, Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, said when he opened a Commons debate on policing London. Such stupidity would be confronted by the Government without straying into "bossiness" that would antagonize people.

He said: "It is a subject that requires a response from Government, from law makers and from parents and teachers."

The Metropolitan Police had introduced crime screening to concentrate detective work on crimes where clear-ups were most likely, but all serious crimes were investigated. They had to work at clear violence out of the atmosphere of London. They could not allow this city to degenerate to the standards of New York, Los Angeles, and Miami.

Labour policy was confused. Its view had been that Mrs Thatcher was responsible for crime because she created unemployment and poverty. Now, it was saying that she was responsible for crime because she created prosperity and affluence.

Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said that one

principal cause of crime was unemployment and poverty, particularly in London, where grinding poverty existed cheek by jowl with affluence.

A new form of crime was committed by the affluent young as a result of values which were increasingly fashionable in society and advocated and encouraged by the Government, which had spent almost a decade extolling the virtues of getting rich quick, but abandoning responsibility for other people's health and housing.

There was a philosophy that people could do whatever they liked on a Saturday night so long as they paid for the damage. They, like the Prime Minister, believed that there was no such thing as society — only individuals.

These young men were not very different from the up-wardly mobile hoodlums who drove out and terrorized market towns. Indeed they were often the same people.

On screening, nothing was more likely to undermine the people's faith in the police than to be told that a particular crime was not one to which the police gave high priority and that they had to expect that sort of thing if they lived in that area.

He wanted to see co-operation

between individuals and the police and between the people's representatives and the police. That was why he favoured an elected police authority, not in day-to-day control of the police, but able to guide the force on the



Ms Abbott: The police must be above suspicion.

priorities of the people whom they protected.

"Even if the police have the manpower they want and the facilities they want and the resources they want, crime in this country will increase until we encourage a different standard of values based on the needs of the whole community. This Government is incapable of encouraging that standard of values, so crime will go on

increasing until this Government goes."

Mr Jeremy Corbyn (Islington North, Lab) said that the influence of freemasonry on the police force was very serious. The power of a masonic lodge in any organization was very sinister and insidious. Membership of any kind of secret organization laid people open to blackmail.

Mr Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, SLD) said that in a "cash and grab" society, where many displayed the evidence of their success, it was not surprising that the young, living on social security about the council estates, should turn to crime.

Sir Geoffrey Finberg (Hampstead and Highgate, C) said that he was not a freemason and never had been. In view of the charitable work they did, he would be proud to be one and did not believe that membership was incompatible with being a policeman.

Ms Diane Abbott (Hackney North and Stoke Newington, Lab) said that the police force should be like Caesar's wife — above suspicion. There was no doubt that the continual drip of allegations about freemasonry did not leave the Metropolitan Police above reproach.

For the very young, the disabled and adults.

On Wednesday, peers start the report stage of the Local Government Finance Bill, which brings in the poll tax.

Peers on the libertarian right will make a final attempt to amend a private member's Bill requiring children to be strapped in to the rear seats of cars where restraints are fitted. If it is not given a third reading in the Lords during Monday's supper break, the Government is expected to find more time to help it get on to the statute book.

June 24 1988

Protests at firearms controls

The Government's proposals for tightening up the firearms laws were given strong support from two former police officers who sit in the House of Lords.

Many peers with shooting interests, however, protested at the new restrictions contained in the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, which was given a second reading.

The Bill, introduced after the Hungerford tragedy last summer, has passed the Commons.

In a maiden speech, Lord Nelson (C), a former detective sergeant, said that after nearly 23 years in the police he could tell opponents of the Bill that to experience the sensation of having a loaded sawn-off shotgun pointed at him was very different from the relatively tranquil atmosphere at the local gun club.

Lord Knights (Ind), former Chief Constable of West Midlands, said that in urban areas there was now a fear and apprehension of armed crime which was very real and could not be ignored.

Earl Ferrers, Minister of State, Home Office, said that the Bill recognized the proper and reasonable interests of the shooting community and acknowledged the paramount concern of public safety.

Lord Portsmouth (C), in a maiden speech, said that misinformation and confusion had ruled in the Bill. There was not sufficient evidence to support the drastic step of banning self-loading rifles.

The Earl of Northesk (C) said that the Bill was unnecessary, conceived out of hysteria and in haste and because of pressure from the media and the police.

Lord Wyndford (C) said that the Bill could result in the demise of many types of gun clubs.

THE TIMES FRENCH GAME OF BOULES

The game of Boules, otherwise known as Pétanque, is suitable for all ages, demanding skill rather than physical prowess. It is perfect for playing on the beach or in the garden and will provide many hours of entertainment for all members of the family.

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Pope's visit to Austria

Jews demand firm condemnation of rising anti-Semitism

From Roger Boyes, Vienna

Leaders of the Jewish community yesterday sharply criticized the Pope, calling on him to make a more forceful statement condemning anti-Semitism in Austria and to forge diplomatic relations between the Vatican and Israel.

Herr Paul Grosz, president of the 6,000-strong Jewish community in Austria, indicated (without naming names) that anti-Semitism has been growing since President Waldheim's election two years ago.

The Pope, who had invited the Jewish spokesmen for a breakfast meeting at the Papal Nunciature — technically outside Austrian territory — listened with a serious expression as Herr Grosz declared that Austrians were still participating in the events of the Second World War.

Referring to a new wave of anti-Semitism, Herr Grosz said: "The occurrences in Austria in the past two years have shown — particularly at the time of the President's visit to the Vatican — that many Austrians have still not come to terms with their past. It is considered patriotic to remain silent about the matter — but unpatriotic to speak out. One prefers to hold foreigners or Jews responsible for any problems that crop up."

The Pope, too, could do more, he said. "With deep regret we miss a public statement from Your Holiness, similar to the one made in Cologne, concerning the Austrian nation's relationship to its past." Finally, said Herr Grosz, the Vatican should recognize Israel diplomati-

cally and thus clearly "reject Palestinian terrorism whose declared intention is to destroy Israel".

The Pope had anticipated some of the attacks in his prepared speech, which stressed the efforts of the Vatican to build bridges with the Jewish people. He also alluded to his visit to the Rome synagogue and emphasized the right of all peoples — whether Jewish or Palestinian — to their homeland. But the Pope did not comment on the charges of Austrian anti-Semitism, perhaps thinking that his symbolic visit to Mauthausen concentration camp later in the day would make his point.

The Mauthausen visit, however, was not enough to still the fears of the Jews. Chief Rabbi Paul Czeizler, Eisenberger of Austria told reporters that he was "very, very disappointed" by the Pope's Mauthausen homily, which did not stress sufficiently the suffering of Jewish victims.

The controversy was perhaps inevitable. The Austrian press has been nervously floating rumours for months that the Jewish community would use the papal trip for an attack on the wartime record of Dr Waldheim and on the attitudes of the more benighted Austrian Catholics. In the event, Austrian commentators seemed relieved that the criticism was not more peppy.

The Pope is evidently more concerned with healing wounds in Austria than creating fresh rows. Now that the uproar surrounding Dr Waldheim's war years in the Bal-

kans has receded somewhat, the Pope sees the chance of persuading Austrians to live together again a bit more comfortably.

He also wants to throw a lifeline to Eastern Europe. The scene yesterday in Trausdorf, close to the Hungarian border, was remarkable. Almost 2,000 buses of Hungarian pilgrims had crossed from the East in the early morning, and thousands of individual pilgrims had walked across the frontier, waved through by Hungarian and Yugoslav border police, to the large boggy field where Mass was celebrated. Among the pilgrims was a Hungarian girl in a primitive iron lung mounted on motorcycle wheels, pushed from East to West for the service.

Addressing the Hungarians in their language and the Yugoslav pilgrims in Croatian, the Pope pleaded for a return to good Christian values and for a Europe united by its Christian faith. Poles waved Solidarity banners and the Hungarians sang, danced and clapped as he called for the reassertion of Christianity in East and West. There were surprisingly few Austrian pilgrims at the open-air Mass.

After Trausdorf came Mauthausen and Salzburg, where the Pope lectured the Austrian bishops on their need to stay firm in interpreting Church teachings. The Pope has been worried about the secular drift of what was once a staunchly Catholic country, the numbers of abortions and divorces and flagging church attendances.

Settlers and Arabs clash in Israel violence



Two Orthodox Jews complaining to a mounted policeman after their bus had been stoned by Palestinian youths near the old city of Jerusalem yesterday.

Later police pulled about 20 Arab suspects off waiting buses at the East Jerusalem central bus station and detained them (Reuters reports).

In the occupied West Bank town of Hebron, a Jewish settler stabbed by an Arab chased his attacker through a crowded marketplace and shot him.

In Nablus in the West Bank, another Jewish settler shot and wounded nine Palestinians when he fired on stone throwers who pelted his car after Friday prayers, Arab and hospital sources said. Witnesses said the man was bleeding in the arm.

The incidents were the most serious

since a communiqué issued on Wednesday by underground leaders of the six-month Palestinian uprising, who called for intensification of attacks on Israelis. The Army said it was investigating the Nablus report.

In Hebron, a flashpoint of Arab-Israeli violence, Mr Yona Haikin, aged 35, a settler, was returning from shopping when he was stabbed in the chest and back, Israeli radio said. Mr Haikin, who fired his pistol once and missed, chased his Palestinian attacker for more than 50 yards before trapping him at a roadblock and shooting him in the stomach. The Israeli was in serious but stable condition. The Palestinian's condition was not immediately known.

Since the West Bank's capture by Israel in 1967, dozens of Jewish

families have settled in the centre of Hebron, an Arab town holy to both Jews and Muslims as the burial site of the prophet Abraham. Mr Uri Ariel, secretary-general of the council representing the 65,000 Jewish settlers in the West Bank, urged the Government to expel the attacker and destroy his house.

In Jerusalem, Muslims left Temple Mount mosques after Friday prayers without incident, but police expected protests today.

Israel's High Court of Justice has freed a Palestinian held without trial for the first time since the start of the uprising, the Justice Ministry said yesterday.

A spokeswoman said the court on Thursday ordered the immediate release of Mr Hatem Abdul-Kader, a

journalist and one of about 2,500 Palestinians jailed for up to six months under administrative detention orders. The spokeswoman said the decision, based on technical problems relating to his arrest, did not signal a change of policy.

But legal sources told *The Jerusalem Post* the ruling would favour the Defence Ministry to be more specific and careful before using its detention powers in future.

The Army ordered the release of 45 administrative detainees yesterday. They were among 89 prisoners being freed with the aim of restoring normal life in the occupied territories, where at least 220 Palestinians and four Israelis have died since the uprising erupted in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in December.

WORLD SUMMARY

Gandhi shake-up after poll losses

Delhi — Chief Ministers in two Indian states have resigned as the ruling Congress (I) party of Mr Rajiv Gandhi casts about for election winners in the wake of last week's disaster at the polls (Michael Hamlyn writes).

Mr Vir Bahadur Singh, Chief Minister of the northern state of Uttar Pradesh, said he was resigning at the request of the party high command. He denied that it had anything to do with the party's overwhelming defeat at Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh's second largest city. But party reports unanimously blamed him for a disorganized campaign. Congress (I) officials in Uttar Pradesh met last night to elect Mr Narayan Tiwari, Finance Minister in the central Government, as Chief Minister for the region.

Meanwhile, the Chief Minister in the western state of Maharashtra surrounding Bombay has also resigned. Mr S.B. Chavan was appointed two years ago for his second term to try to heal the wounds in the party caused by the intrigues against his predecessor. But he has singularly failed to achieve this. His successor is Mr Sharad Pawar.

Angola talks halted

Talks in Cairo on ending the war in Angola broke off yesterday after a two-hour session at which there was a "heated" exchange between Cuban and South African delegates (Our Foreign Staff writes). Mr Chester Crocker, the US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, who was largely instrumental in organizing the meeting of Angolan, Cuban and South African delegations, said there would be a round of informal talks before the summit resumed today.

● War Dead Honoured: The South African delegation yesterday honoured countrymen who fell in Egypt in the Second World War. They are the first South African officials to visit Cairo since the war, as Egypt has barred entry to that nation's citizens.

Oslo's tactical move

Brussels — Oslo has agreed to allow German combat troops into Norway for the first time since Hitler's occupation from 1940 to 1945 as part of a move by Nato to shore up its defences (Frederick Bonmart writes).

Nato's defence planning committee is to establish a multinational force to replace a Canadian brigade previously earmarked for the task. The new force will be made up of US, West German and Canadian troops, a Nato spokesman said. Canada had previously given notice to Nato that it wanted to reassign some of its troops.

Defence bribes query

Washington (Reuters) — Switzerland has asked the Pentagon and two US aircraft manufacturers for information about charges of military contract corruption before making a \$2 billion (£1.14 billion) purchase of fighter planes, the Swiss Embassy said yesterday. The statement represents the first known repercussions abroad from the US investigation of alleged fraud and bribery. McDonnell Douglas's FA 18 fighter plane has been named in connection with the inquiry. McDonnell Douglas is competing against General Dynamics to sell about 40 military aircraft to Switzerland.

Jailed Briton's appeal

Mr Roger Cooper, right, the British businessman held in Tehran, has urged the Government to take specific steps to improve relations with Iran (Andrew McEwen writes). Extracts from a 16-page letter which he sent back with four parliamentarians who visited Iran this week were released yesterday.



restoring full diplomatic links and allowing Iran to resume its consular mission in Manchester.

He wrote: "It would help if the Iranian public realized that Britain is not entirely composed of punks, homosexuals, brazen hussies, AIDS victims, football hooligans and City sharks, which is the prevailing view today."

Brezhnev gets the blame for rescuing Stalinism

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

Leonid Brezhnev, the former Soviet leader, in some of the strongest criticism yet of recent history, has been held responsible for the revival of Stalinism.

Writing in the weekly *Nedelnya*, Mr Igor Bestuzhev-Lada, a leading intellectual, blamed Brezhnev for having undone all the good Khrushchev had achieved towards ridding the country of Stalin's legacy. Khrushchev's "secret speech" denouncing Stalin — which has still not been pub-

lished in the Soviet Union — was described by Mr Bestuzhev-Lada as an act of personal bravery.

The writer blamed Brezhnev for the deterioration in standards of social and intellectual life in the Soviet Union over the past 30 years. By personal example, Mr Bestuzhev-Lada said, Brezhnev had encouraged attitudes of master-servant relations, haughtiness and sycophancy.

A caste had evolved which was exempt from all social and legal norms and which cut itself off from ordinary people. A closet mentality developed, he said, which was the very opposite of *glasnost*.

Singled out for particular condemnation was Brezhnev's tendency to give every-

one, including writers and artists, ranks and awards. In the academic world, Mr Bestuzhev-Lada said, this had wholly negative results. The Soviet Union had 25 per cent of the world's academics, but Soviet academics accounted for less than 2 per cent of footnotes in scholarly papers. This put the country on a par with India and Brazil.

It was the second criticism of Brezhnev to have appeared this week. On Thursday, *Stroitel'naya Gazeta* published reminiscences of the Brezhnev years by five Soviet citizens.

Among his crimes they listed moral weakness, and his delight in lavish praise and gifts at a time when the economy was in difficulty. One writer, a senior economist, accused him of committing a crime against his own people by increasing alcohol production in an attempt to compensate for the shortages of consumer goods and food.

Over the past year, Brezhnev has been increasingly

blamed for the failure of the Soviet economy in the late 1970s and early 1980s. A city and streets which were named after him have had their old names restored. He is also being held responsible for the continuation of Stalinism.

The resumption of anti-Brezhnev criticism in the days before the Communist Party conference suggests that the proponents of radical reform see the "Brezhnevites" as the chief obstacle to change. By blaming Brezhnev for economic problems and associating him with Stalinism, they can achieve two objec-

tives at once. They emphasize that Mr Mikhail Gorbachev is the revolutionary who wants to break with the past, and they demonstrate the need for thorough, rather than cosmetic, change.

● Estonians rights: An official commission in Estonia has begun legal work on restoring justice to thousands of Estonians repressed under Stalin (Reuters reports). New laws to consolidate "democratization" are being drafted. Some 60,000 Estonians were forcibly deported from the republic in 1941, many dying en route.

Polish debt crisis increases West's influence on reform

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

As Mr Zdzislaw Sadowski, Poland's Deputy Prime Minister, completed a four-day visit to London yesterday it became clear that Warsaw's debt crisis has placed Britain and the United States in a strong position to persuade it to speed up economic and democratic reforms.

Unless Poland gets agreement from its international creditors to suspend payments on its \$39 billion (£21.6 billion) foreign debt for about five years, its recovery plans are doomed. Mr Sadowski made that clear in his London talks and it is also accepted by Whitehall and Washington experts. But both capitals are saying they will not give consent without greater commitment to reform by Warsaw.

Mr Sadowski used a meeting with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday, and with the Governor of the Bank of England and officials of two clearing banks earlier in the week, to try to obtain support. He said he had found "great understanding" of Poland's problems.

He is to fly to Washington today to try to persuade the International Monetary Fund to approve an adjustment programme for Poland. This is seen as essential if creditors

are to suspend payments for more than a year. Sir Geoffrey is understood to have indicated Britain's support for such a programme.

Mr Sadowski, a non-member of the Communist Party, was brought into the Government because of his academic credentials and given the job of deregulating the economy more quickly.

But there remains a gulf between the Polish Government's idea of the pace it should set and the West's demands. There is strong resistance in Congress to US funding for an IMF or World Bank operation to help Poland. Mr Sadowski made it clear that he was hoping for British support to soften the objections.

In a speech at the Royal Institute of International Affairs on Tuesday, he complained bitterly about the West's reluctance to assist Poland. "If we obtain some co-operation then the (reform) programme will be carried out very radically; if not it is condemned to a slower pace," he said. British sources viewed this as putting the cart before the horse.

Mr Sadowski has also shown an awareness that the

underlying problem is the Polish Government's image in the West. But while he argues that change is under way, Whitehall and Washington remain unconvinced about the intentions of the Government of General Wojciech Jaruzelski.

Mrs Thatcher is to visit Poland in October, and Warsaw is hoping she will help to brighten its image in the West. Her influence in shaping British and American views of Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, made a big impression in Warsaw. But she will not lightly do the same for Poland, and part of the Government's aim in inviting Mr Sadowski to London was to signal the changes that she will want to see before giving her help.

Whitehall sources said that the interest alone on Poland's debts was between \$2 billion (£1.14 billion) and \$3 billion a year, and its economy could not manage more than \$1.5 billion.

The Paris club of government creditors is temporarily suspending a backlog of debt repayments covering the period since 1981. But the arrangement is for one year only and Warsaw is looking for a much longer break.

Protests against the Government of General Ne Win appear to be spreading from the Burmese capital, Rangoon, to the rest of the country.

Emergency restrictions were imposed yesterday in the port of Pegu, 30 miles north of Rangoon, after rioting on Wednesday night in which the post office and a government office were burnt down, according to unconfirmed diplomatic reports.

Violent unrest began in Rangoon on Tuesday when the university was declared closed after a week of student protests. Students also appear to be leading the disturbances elsewhere. Colleges are reported to have been closed in towns from Moulmein in the south to Meiktila in the far north. In Mandalay, Burma's second largest city and the former royal capital, a curfew is in force and the universities have been closed.

From Rangoon, where 77 arrests have been reported, there are conflicting accounts of the situation at the Shwedagon Pagoda, one of Burma's holiest shrines. The students who were reported to have occupied it on Wednesday have apparently left or been ejected by security

Protests in Burma

Economic ills fuel riots

By Anatol Lieven

forces, who are surrounding the temple. Troops are also reported to be moving into the capital.

Students, like those on salaries with nothing to sell on the black market, have suffered particularly badly from Burma's deteriorating economic situation. At the end of last year Burma asked for and received from the United Nations the status of a Least Developed Nation.

The economy has stagnated under the system of "Burmese Socialism" imposed by General Ne Win and his Burmese Socialist Programme Party. After a speech last year in which General Ne Win admitted that changes were needed, measures were taken to liberalize the trade in rice.

But because official prices cannot compete with those offered on the black market, the Government's rice procurement programme, on which many people in the towns are dependent, was damaged. Distribution of food has also been damaged by an acute shortage of petrol, though it is an oil-producing country — and spare parts for its disintegrating vehicles, and by the perennial guerrilla war in border areas.

Great public bitterness was

also caused by the Government's action last September in abolishing several denominations of banknotes without warning or compensation. This move was apparently intended to hit the financial reserves of black marketeers and the various tribal rebel groups but it also wiped out the savings of ordinary people.

In March there was a serious outbreak of student-led rioting in Rangoon which is believed to have left more than 60 people dead. The universities were then closed. As soon as they reopened on May 30 protests recommenced, leading up to Tuesday's violence in Rangoon.

General Ne Win's Government is considered to be in serious difficulties. This impression has been strengthened by the circulation in Rangoon of highly critical letters to the general from one of the men who helped him to power in 1962, retired Brigadier-General Aung Gyi.

General Aung Gyi is reported to have been jailed last week for leaking the letters to the public. He joins a large prison population in Burma, whose sufferings were highlighted in an Amnesty International report last month.

Warning of global danger as heat wave rolls on

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The present heat wave and drought in the United States is part of a global warming trend, and evidence that the "greenhouse effect" has already begun, a National Aeronautics and Space Administration scientist has testified to Congress.

Dr James Hansen told the Senate energy committee that the Earth was warmer in the first five months of 1988 than in any comparable period since measurements began 130 years ago. He said it was 99 per cent certain that the

warming trend was not a natural variation but was caused by a build-up of carbon dioxide and other artificial gases in the atmosphere.

Dr Hansen, a leading expert on climate change, said it was time to stop waffling and acknowledge that the long-forecast greenhouse effect had already begun. He said this would alter the global climate and affect life on Earth for centuries to come.

In the United States, the Midwest and South-east would be subject to frequent episodes of very high temperatures and drought in the next decade and beyond. His warning came as

the heat wave maintained its relentless hold on most of the country. Forty per cent of US counties have now been declared disaster areas. Dr Richard Lyng, the Agriculture Secretary, told farm belt governors that there was no question about the seriousness of this year's drought. Its repercussions would be felt around the world.

At a meeting in Chicago to discuss emergency measures to help hard-pressed farmers, the governors of the 11 worst-hit states called for quick federal action to form a national drought policy. One proposal that ran into sharp

opposition was to divert up to 9,000 cu. ft. of water a second from Lake Michigan to the drought-depleted Mississippi, which has now reached almost record low levels.

Choked with stranded barges, the river has been reduced to a narrow waterway, and the US Army Corps of Engineers has dredged channels to keep traffic moving. The river is 20 ft below normal and still falling. At New Orleans it is only one foot above sea level, a record low. Industries dependent on river ports are suffering, and hydroelectric stations in the Tennessee Valley have cut their

output by more than 20 per cent.

The searing heat, which brought record temperatures of more than 100 deg F. to Washington and other big cities, moderated slightly in the East, but there has been little rain to relieve the Midwest drought.

Farmers are slaughtering cattle and selling livestock in panic reactions in many states. Corn and soybean futures prices have risen to near record levels at the Chicago Board of Trade, and economists say this will lead to sharp rises in food prices. Congress has already warned

food companies not to profiteer from the drought, and the Government is alarmed that price rises could fuel inflation.

About 20 big cities have experienced record temperatures for June, and many have appealed to drivers not to use their cars as ozone levels, aggravated by exhaust fumes, reach unhealthy levels. In Boston, where 12 people died last week from heat, a heat emergency was declared, and air-conditioned shelters were set up for the elderly in two schools.

Utility companies have reported record demands for electricity.

Snitte

Rea

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US

Professor Rea: turn tables on

Sniffer dogs search for landslide victims as hopes fade

By Our Foreign Staff

Rescue workers dodging huge falling rocks yesterday searched for scores of landslide victims in the Turkish village of Catak, but hopes of finding any survivors were fading.

A 31-member West German team with 21 sniffer dogs joined 50 Turkish civil workers in rescue efforts as rocks tumbled down a steep mountain, raising clouds of dust and scattering relief workers.

A truck driver and a villager were injured by flying boulders in two separate slides.

No one at the site was willing to put a figure on how many people were engulfed when the landslide struck the Black Sea village at breakfast time on Thursday swallowing cars, buses, a school and at least one restaurant. Catak had an estimated population of 1,000.

The Turkish Red Crescent said the total could be up to 300. But the deputy governor of the nearby port of Trabzon, Mr Erkan Isilgan, said he could not agree with that estimate.

"I do not know how and why the Red Crescent may have made such an announcement, if they have. It is extremely difficult to estimate the death toll but very cau-

tiously, I would say between 50 and 75 at most," he said. The West German team were gloomy about the prospect of finding survivors. "The chances are very small that anyone is still alive. But it is too early to say for sure," Dr Stefan Luhrs, head of the team, said.

Another team member, Herr Wolfgang Kreischer, was more pessimistic. "We have lost all hope. If we can find survivors, this would be a great success. The people are trapped between earth and water. It is very unlikely that they can be supplied with air. They may all be crushed ... There is at least five metres (about 15 ft) of earth," he said.

Earth-moving machines picked away at about half a million tonnes of sodden earth covering the village while police blew whistles to warn rescue workers of massive rock falls as parts of the mountain continued to collapse.

Thirty hours after the disaster, the sniffer dogs flown in by the West German team of experts had failed to locate any of the 100 likely victims, another team member said.

"We've dug five deep pits into areas indicated by the

dogs, but found nobody. We'll go on trying: we'll be working through the night," Herr Klaus Koller, of the Mannheim-based Rescue Dog Association, said.

Three West German tourists are among those known to be missing, according to a Trabzon tourism official. He said they had been travelling on a bus swept away by the landslide. Two other West Germans travelling with them had escaped.

Meanwhile, a member of Parliament, Mr Ali Eser, said that villagers had complained to him about the rescue operation.

"They say the bulldozers are digging in the wrong place. They say every effort should be made directly over the road," he said.

PEKING: A landslide triggered by heavy rains killed 17 people and seriously injured 33 in southern China's Jiangxi province on Tuesday, the China Daily reported yesterday (AP reports).

Seven people were still missing from the landslide, which buried 32 houses in the village of Xiayuan. Rescue operations were under way for 4,000 people stranded by floods in the province.



West German rescue workers using sniffer dogs yesterday to locate victims of the landslide at the Turkish village of Catak.

EEC still divided over future as it reaches out across Iron Curtain

Realities of trade narrow East-West gap

By Michael Dynes

A big step towards easing 30 years of virtually unrelenting enmity between the two estranged halves of Europe will be taken formally today, with the signing of a declaration of "mutual recognition" between the EEC and the Soviet-led trading bloc, Comecon.

Although heralded by Lord Plumb, president of the European Parliament, as destined to "change the map of Europe", by itself the declaration will alter little other than the atmospheres of inter-European trade.

West European business executives anticipating a dramatic expansion of trading opportunities, and EEC politicians fearful about the prospects of a flood of cheap imports over the Iron Curtain, will have to wait a very long time before their hopes or anxieties are realized — if indeed they ever are.

The declaration, which will be

signed by Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, Mr Willy de Clercq, European Commissioner for External Relations, and Mr Vyacheslav Syrov, the Soviet Secretary of State, commits the two trading blocs to little more than a formal acknowledgment of each other's existence.

Mr Mikhail Gorbachev has been credited with overturning the Soviet policy of hostility to the EEC by manoeuvring Comecon (which groups the Soviet Union, East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Romania, Mongolia, Cuba and Vietnam) towards proposing normalization terms acceptable to Brussels. Hitherto, Moscow seemed determined to retain tight control over East European trade by demanding that the EEC conduct all trade accords with Comecon. But Brussels has persistently refused to deal exclu-

sively with a "phantom organization." Unlike the ECC, Comecon is not a supranational body, and has no authority to negotiate international trade agreements on behalf of its members — hence the EEC's insistence that bilateral

Oslo (Reuters) — Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland, the Norwegian Prime Minister, said yesterday that she had invited heads of government from the European Free Trade Association to Oslo next March to

trade accords must run parallel with bloc-to-bloc recognition.

But the new Ostpolitik nearly founded last month over the so-called "Berlin Clause", which Brussels writes into all international agreements in an effort to guarantee that its provisions extend to West Berlin.

A formula was eventually hammered out allowing the EEC to define West Berlin as part of the

Community, but which also committed the Soviet Union to claim that nothing in the declaration altered the four-power status of the city.

The declaration should accelerate talks between the EEC, the

discuss the EEC plan to create an internal market by 1992. Norway will hold the presidency of the association, which groups six countries outside the EEC, for the first six months of next year.

Soviet Union and its East European allies to enter into formal diplomatic relations, and establish or extend bilateral trade and economic co-operation agreements with the Community.

Rapid progress in these talks is seen as a leading foreign policy objective of Mr Gorbachev — desperate to boost trade.

Mr de Clercq, sensitive to warnings that the nascent

approchement between the two trading communities could mask an attempt by Moscow to drive a wedge between Western Europe and the U.S. is quick to point out that the EEC has a magnetism all of its own, which is more likely to put a strain on East European ties.

West Germany, which already has extensive trade relations with its eastern neighbour under an arrangement which gives East Germany access to the EEC because its exports to West Germany are classified as "inter-German trade", believes that the Eastern bloc is a huge under-developed market.

According to figures produced by the European Commission for 1987, Comecon's imports from the EEC were valued at £16 billion, while exports to the EEC totalled £12.7 billion.

Considering the size of the two trading blocs, the volume of trade is comparatively small. It is also

declining. But if Mr Gorbachev sees the new era of friendly relations with the EEC as the first step towards a massive injection of Western technology and capital investment into Comecon, he is likely to be disappointed.

The Co-ordinating Committee on Multilateral Export Controls, known as Cocom, may have been moving in the direction of shortening the list of sensitive technologies embargoed to Comecon countries, but it is also tightening enforcement, making a dramatic expansion of technology transfers all but impossible.

According to one leading international trade specialist: "During the past 18 months, only a few hundred Western companies have put their toes into Comecon's waters, and all of these joint ventures have been comparatively small." But he added that bigger ones were in the pipeline.

Britain heads for a monetary collision

When Mrs Thatcher signed the Single European Act at the EEC Luxembourg summit three years ago, Lord Cockfield, Britain's senior EEC Commissioner, remarked, with the deadpan irony for which he is noted, that a statue of the Prime Minister should be erected on the cliffs of Dover, with her arm pointing towards the Continent and the words "There Lies Our Destiny" inscribed on the pedestal.

Three years on, as the effects of the Single Act begin to be felt, it looks as if Mrs Thatcher is heading for a confrontation with her fellow EEC leaders over a crucial issue of European integration: monetary union and the creation of a European central bank.

On Monday the leaders met at Hanover, at the end of West Germany's six-month chairmanship of the Community, to consider monetary union, to regard this as the next logical step in the 1992 process, perhaps leading in the long run to a common European currency, based on the European Currency Unit (the Ecu).

The German impetus is based as much on German dominance of EEC monetary and fiscal affairs as on a desire to help Community businessmen and travellers by doing away with the inconvenience of having to juggle 11 different currencies and losing commercially in the process not to mention having to carry absurd amounts of small change in one's pockets.

British officials are already seeking to minimize the differences between Mrs Thatcher and Chancellor Kohl as the Hanover meeting approaches. Mrs Thatcher, it is said, may be willing to agree to refer the issue of monetary union to an EEC committee of central bank governors and other "wise men" for further study.

Britain, officials say, would also agree to expanded use of the Ecu, at present a notional currency used in Community calculations and marketed in a limited way through Euro-bonds.

But there is no disguising that Mrs Thatcher and the EEC are once again on a collision course, as was demonstrated by the dismayed reaction in European capitals to Mrs Thatcher's tough out-of-hand rejection of the central bank idea before it has even got off the ground.

European officials already regard Mrs Thatcher's continuing refusal to commit sterling to the European Monetary System as political rather than economic, with an independent pound seen as a symbol for the Prime Minister of patriotism and national sovereignty.

On Thursday, Mrs Thatcher cut through the talk about smoothing over the monetary issue when she told the Commons bluntly that a European central bank to manage the EEC money supply could come about only when there was a sovereign government for Europe, and since that was not on the cards there was no point in even studying it.

It does not follow from this that Mrs Thatcher is necessarily "anti-European", let alone incapable of compromise in European affairs. The Prime

Minister's record for pragmatic U-turns in EEC matters matches her record at home. The Single European Act itself offers an example.

At the Milan summit of June, 1985, Mrs Thatcher angrily dismissed plans for amending the Treaty of Rome to hasten EEC integration as "pie in the sky". Six months later the Single Act was duly signed, adapted to meet British criticism, but with its central points intact: a legal commitment to the 1992 target date, increased powers for the European Parliament, and provision for a joint EEC foreign policy.

A similar process occurred over the financial reforms

devised by M Jacques Delors, the Commission president, to streamline the Community for 1992. During three EEC summits, Mrs Thatcher began by opposing the plan tooth and nail on the grounds that it lacked budgetary rigour.

But at the end of the Brussels summit in February, after long and grueling negotiations, Mrs Thatcher approved the package, which in its final form contained her demand for a strict ceiling on farm spending, but also retained M Delors's plan for increasing EEC resources to allow greater regional spending in the southern countries.

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Brussels View

By Richard Owen

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Relations between Mrs Thatcher and M Delors remain cool. But at Hanover he will almost certainly be re-nominated as Commission president, becoming the first such

president to serve for more than four years since the 1960s.

Yet the fundamental question which 1992 and the Single European Act both pose remains unanswered: the extent to which EEC governments are willing to surrender yet further control over traditional instruments of national policy in the interests of European integration.

For Mrs Thatcher, fiscal and monetary issues may well be sticking points. The Prime Minister already opposes the harmonization of indirect taxation, not least because it would bring about the end of VAT zero-rating in Britain. Now, it seems, she is putting her foot down over the European Bank.

"Mrs Thatcher is not anti-European," one West German official said. "But she is nationalist in outlook." British officials retort that other countries are also nationalist, but are more adept at identifying the nationalist cause with the European one.

In Mrs Thatcher's case, however, nationalism is bolstered by a global outlook in which the British relationship with the United States is seen as at least as important as Britain's relationship with Europe. "When Mrs Thatcher goes to Washington," one of her aides confided, "she goes with a gleam in her eye and a spring in her step. When she goes to Europe, it is out of a sense of duty."

That conflict between Britain's role in Europe and its traditional Atlanticism also affects the future of a common European defence, the issue most likely to dominate the

European agenda after monetary union.

On the face of it, therefore, Britain once again risks standing aside from an historical process which gains its impetus from a Franco-German proposal. In the end, the issue of the European bank and a common currency may pass through the by-now-familiar EEC process from visionary idea, then "blood on the carpet" controversy, to pragmatic modification and ultimately to agreement, with Mrs Thatcher again playing a key role in modifying ideas for the better.

British officials acknowledge that the 1992 programme is advancing steadily, with Bonn chalking up remarkable achievements during its six months in the chair, including directives on professional mobility, road haulage, life insurance, and freedom of capital movements. But it remains an open question whether the impetus the West Germans have built up over monetary union since the beginning of the year will prove unstoppable, or whether after Hanover the issue will be put on the back burner.

Europe, the pound, and the European Monetary System could turn out to be the one issue on which Mrs Thatcher is not willing to compromise, whatever her record of past U-turns. Hanover will reveal how rigid the opening positions of the various EEC governments are.

The next two or three summits, perhaps culminating in the summit at the end of the French presidency at the end of next year, will show how much flexibility exists.

Brussels looks to common currency

From Richard Owen, Brussels

The concept of European monetary union is not part of the programme for a single European market by the end of 1992 as defined by the Single European Act.

But it is regarded as an inevitable consequence of 1992, on the ground that operating an integrated market without internal frontiers will prove difficult in the absence of mechanisms for controlling exchange rates and the money supply.

It is also assumed, at least by the European Commission and apparently by Bonn, that in the long run it will be impracticable to maintain 11 different national currencies in an integrated Europe. There are plans to expand use of the European Currency Unit, or Ecu, which is based on a "basket" of currencies, including sterling. But the pound remains outside the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System.

The proposals, as developed by West Germany, are still at an embryonic stage but they contain two clear ideas: a European central bank and as a long-term goal — a common currency derived from the present Ecu.

As M Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, remarked before leaving Brussels for Hanover — where the summit begins on Monday — there are "widely differing views" within the EEC on how, if at all, these objectives should be achieved. The line-up of key players is: West Germany: Although

less fervent than his Foreign Minister, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, about monetary union, Chancellor Helmut Kohl favours the creation of a European bank after completion of the single market in 1992, modelled on the Bundesbank. West Germany's central bank.

The Germans argue that a European bank could put an end to inflation and the devaluation of currencies.

Britain: The British view is complicated by deep differences between Mrs Thatcher and her senior ministers, notably Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, over whether sterling should enter the exchange rate mechanism of the EMS.

Most of the Cabinet favour such a move, arguing that Britain cannot for ever maintain that "the time is not yet right". But the Prime Minister remains adamantly opposed.

France: Paris is committed to monetary union but differs from Bonn over the structure and organization of any future European bank. The French prefer a European bank based on federal co-ordination between central bank governors, rather than a centralized system.

Italy: The Italian line, unlike the pound, is already part of the exchange rate mechanism of the EMS.

The Italian attitude to the proposal for a European central bank is described as "cautious but positive".

Nigerian alert to bar toxic dumping

Abidjan (AP) — Nigeria has posted vigilante groups at all its ports and jetties to prevent toxic waste being off-loaded by foreign ships, according to Nigerian radio monitored in the Ivory Coast.

The report came as US experts were testing some 2,000 tonnes of toxic waste dumped illegally near the town of Koko, 150 miles south-east of Lagos, allegedly by an Italian company representing 10 European countries. Nigeria has since recalled its ambassador to Italy, seized an Italian ship and arrested 15 people, including several Italians.

ROME: The Italian Foreign Ministry said that Italian companies which dumped toxic waste in Nigeria were willing to remove the refuse and destroy it elsewhere.

Party admits Straub change

Budapest (Reuters) — Mr Janos Berecz, a Hungarian Politburo member, has confirmed that the Communist Party will propose a non-party biochemist, Mr Bruno Straub, aged 74, as successor to President Nemeth.

Mr Berecz also confirmed that Mr Imre Pozsgay, a vocal supporter of reform, would be proposed for a new post of Minister of State when Parliament begins its summer session next Wednesday.

Sabotage fear

Moscow (AFP) — An investigation is under way into alleged sabotage at a textile factory in the Miasis region of south-east Soviet Armenia where 45 Armenian women were admitted to hospital after a gas leak, a local official said.

Drugs haul

San Juan (AFP) — Police in Puerto Rico seized half a tonne of cocaine, valued at about \$400 million, from a twin-engine plane at an abandoned airfield here and arrested six people.

Iranian row

Dar es Salaam (Reuters) — Tanzania asked Iran to withdraw an embassy official, Mr Ghassem Bahman Abadi, because Iran refused to waive his immunity to answer charges connected with illegal possession of ivory.

Strike talks

Madrid — Spanish civil aviation authorities met in Madrid to try to head off a further rise in air traffic delays, after a decision by the ground maintenance crews' union to intensify intermittent work stoppages next month.

Gold strike

Harare (AFP) — A Zimbabwean subsidiary of an Australian mining company, Chase Minerals, discovered an old mine dump with about two tonnes of gold worth £17.4 million at Connemara, 100 miles south of here.

Jail siege ends

Moscow (AFP) — Soviet commandos stormed a jail in Komsomolsk-na-Amure after six prisoners seized a guard and five women, threatening to kill them unless the authorities provided a getaway car.

Colonial link

A magazine has been launched for British men and women who served in the armed forces and civil services in Singapore and Malaya. The magazine, *Stripes*, is published by the Singapore Malaya Reunion Club.

Aids victim

Los Angeles (Reuters) — Gay rights activist Leonard Matlovich, who said the US Air Force honoured him for killing two men in Vietnam but discharged him for loving one, died of Aids, aged 45.

US boffin acts as a guide through twists of the English tongue

From Charles Bremner New York



Professor Read: Decided to turn tables on the British.

The British may not like the idea, but for the majority of those who use English we speak a rather quaint dialect. Only now, though, is someone getting around to explaining fully to all those Americans and other users of the global language what the British are really talking about.

After half a century of loving research, an American professor, aged 62, is close to completing the first comprehensive dictionary of "Briticisms". The dictionary has been a lifetime project for Allen Walker Read, professor emeritus of English at Columbia University and one of the leading scholars of the American version of the language. Among his linguistic achievements, Professor Read is the man credited by the *Oxford Dictionary* with unearthing the origins of that most international of Americanisms — "OK". It came

from a type of phonetic slang popular in Boston in the late 1830s and it stood for "Oll Korrect".

As long ago as 1948, the great H.L. Mencken said Professor Read "probably knows more about early Americanisms than anyone else on Earth".

The idea of a British dictionary came to Professor Read in 1936 after a Rhodes scholarship at Oxford and work on Sir William Craigie's *Dictionary of American English*. "I'm turning the tables on the English," the professor says as he rummages through a study crammed with old file boxes in his pleasant Manhattan flat.

The boxes house some 100,000 quotations culled to demonstrate peculiarly British usage since Americans started noticing the strange way their rulers talked early in the 18th century.

Mr John Algeo, a scholar from Georgia, teamed up with Professor Read last year with the aim of finishing the dictionary for publica-

tion by the Clarendon Press in the next two years or so. Mr Algeo is the expert on the modern transatlantic lexicon, the puns, flits, lories, lifts and tins that are fairly familiar to Americans.

Professor Read focuses on the British of another age. Delve into his boxes and you visit the land of motoring in the Cotswolds and tea at Piccadilly. Open the box under the "T" and you find, for example, "on the telephone... telephone box... tell off... telly... temperance hotel... tinner... terminus... terrace..."

Britain's fixation with social class provides a rich source of local colour for Professor Read. "How does one differentiate between an old bean, a gent, a bloke, a chap, a cad, a toff, a lad?" he asked in a recent paper. "What is the exact tone of words like boffin, buffer, deffer, card, silly ass, brick, masher, boulder..."

"I got hundreds of good quotations from England," Professor

Read says. The *Wigan Observer* of the late 1940s was especially valuable.

The professor has drawn heavily on reports by early American travellers in England. He found, for example, that no one could recognize an American accent in England until the 19th century — the wide variety of domestic dialect meant they were taken simply for provincials.

But the coinages and phrases of the New World were being dismissed as colonial and uncouth by the likes of Dr Johnson well before that.

What is less well known is how uncouth the British language and manners seemed to early American visitors, Professor Read says. In 1766, for example, one Nathaniel Whitaker — an Indian by origin — was shocked at the boorish debating behaviour of members of Parliament. "I am sure you would sicken at the sight..." he wrote home. "When affairs which respect

the welfare of the nation were talked of the whole house almost would be talking together or crying 'hear him, hear him', etc. and laughing."

The quotation, which illustrates the origins of "hear, hear", could speak for any modern American visitor to Westminster making a comparison with the decorous ways of Congress.

Professor Read found the *New York Review* inveighing in 1842 against the importing into America of British "vulgarity and provincialisms". "It is not all which is used there that is the speech that Shakespeare spoke," it said.

The Americans were particularly sensitive about coarse language. "Such words as bloody, beastly, nasty, brute, are much employed," said one critic in 1872. "For example, to say to a horse 'Get up you nasty brute out of that beastly walk or I'll knock your bloody head off,' is a common form of speech." *Harper's Bazar* complained in

1893 about young ladies who came back from a summer in England "calling things beastly, nasty, stinking and rot". And the British irritated the Americans with their vulgar violations of grammar.

The interrogative "aren't I?" is one heinous example. Better to say "ain't I?", the US purists argued. An American initiating a *Brill* will still stick "aren't I?" on to the end of declarations.

But Shaw's celebrated comment about the two nations being "separated by the same language" no longer applies as sharply as it did in his day, Professor Read says, a little wistfully.

First came steamships, then mass communications and the shared wars. It is interesting though, he notes, that American soldiers did not pick up the English "bloody" despite the wartime mingling.

The word is only now becoming common parlance around the big American cities.

TIMES DIARY

SIMON BARNES

America's Cup yacht racing is the sport that makes bicycle polo look sensible. The so-called action is of virtually no interest at all, save to the fanatics of the yellow-welled legion, but action is not the point. The heart of the sport is dollars, deception and obsessive secrecy. It is inevitable that Falmouth, in Cornwall, has now given itself over to a Great Spy Race as the final preparations are made on the boat to be raced by Peter de Savary.

The tradition of spying on rival boats is deeply entrenched: you will recall the frogmen who tried to sneak a glimpse of the notorious winged keel that gave the Australians victory in 1983. One was actually caught, and the film from his camera confiscated. De Savary's precautions include keeping the lights on all night to thwart infra-red satellite surveillance; it is fondly believed that an American military satellite was borrowed to spy on the New Zealanders' boat in Auckland.

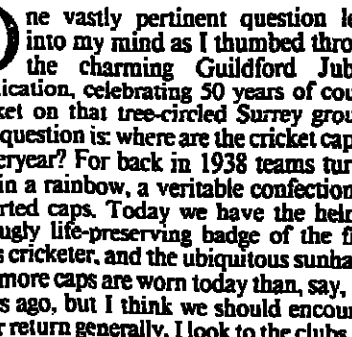
The windows of de Savary's Falmouth boathouse have been silvered and a shroud prevents sneaky glimpses when the door is hurriedly opened for any reason. However, de Savary can do nothing about Penderis Head, a local lookout point that offers splendid views of the boathouse. There are likely to be 150 "sneaky watchers" there at any one time — along with an ice cream van to cater for them. As a bonus, there is a coin-in-the-slot telescope. Not that you will see much. After spending a week watching the shed, and seeing nothing, one New Zealand journalist concluded that there is no boat there at all. There is a moral tale to be told here, I am sure. The Emperor's New 12 Metre Yacht would be my title.

Carried away by my own hubris in correcting both Lord's and *Widen* last week, I paid the price and fell into tragic error, entangling my fingers in my keyboard and scrambling my spelling. The West Indian bowler is really called Curtly Eleanor Lyall Ambrose. I promise.

Talk of tragic flaws brings me to a gentleman called Faust, and his unbridled ambition to bestride the entire world... tragedy will always follow a man who becomes too greatly obsessed with golf, will it not? For I am talking about Helmut Faust, a German businessman who last Sunday played four rounds of golf, on four continents. He began at 3.30am at Caesarea, in Israel. He then hopped to Alexandria in Egypt and after a round there dashed to the airport for a flight to Britain and a brisk swing round Wentworth in Surrey. Then a helicopter to Heathrow, across the Atlantic by Concorde and his fourth round at St Andrews, Hastings, New York, finishing the day with a 125 over par total of 409. He then changed into a black tie for a dinner in his honour, at which he understandably nodded off.

But, such is Faust's burden, he was still not satisfied and next year hopes to play in five continents in a day: first Perth, Australia then, following the sun, Bombay, Tunisia, Marbella in Spain and ending up again in New York. If he works at it, Herr Faust could make America's Cup racing look sensible.

BARRY FANTONI



'A terrible loss — he was giving me £500 a week to park in my garage'

Britain may not be producing too many Wimbledon champions right now, but suddenly London tennis has become most frightfully smart. Next month's *Harper's* and *Queen* is full of it and top of the pops, I learn, is the Vanderbilt Club, near disaster four years ago now super-chic. If you fancy playing alongside the Princess of Wales, Harold and Lady Antonia Pinter, Charles Saatchi and, if you are lucky, Dustin Hoffman and Charlton Heston, then this is the right place. You get "lovely comfortable changing rooms" and kiwi fruit salad. To join will cost you only £1,200 for the first year. You cannot be serious, I hear you say. But they are.

Could this be the race meeting of the year? It involves five miles of Miami beach, 10 days, and 2,600 Arab horses. Called the Arab Horse Desert Classic, it will be held in November, and sounds irresistible.

It seems only yesterday that Neil Kinnock was being proclaimed even among his strongest political opponents of left and right as having established a degree of control over the Labour Party. Harold Wilson in his prime. That perception has changed dramatically in the past two weeks with the sudden upsurge of the "old ogle" — defence policy and disarmament.

I say "old ogle" because the issue has rumbled through Labour's history like an unceasing thunderclap, muffled only now and then under the wrappings of a Labour government. Indeed the "old ogle" long pre-dates nuclear weapons, though, to be sure, the shadow of the H-bomb has become associated with a Labour party more than ever in moral torment.

Yet, in fact, the echoes of this unending debate recall at least a half-century of embattled, heart-searching political strife throughout the whole Labour movement. No other issue has so tormented and bedevilled Labour since its birth — certainly since the 1930s, when Ernest Bevin, as general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, destroyed the pacifist George Lansbury, then Labour leader.

The dozen or so Democrats who turned up were looking for a candidate. From Dukakis they wanted assurance that his views on foreign and defence issues were, at best, the same as theirs, or, at worst, minimally acceptable. Neither Dukakis nor the Democrats left smiling.

What bothered the Democratic insiders was not Dukakis's inexperience in international and military affairs, but Dukakis himself. He was stiff, grumpy, and moralistic — badly informed on nuclear weapons and arms control yet extraordinarily rigid about the arms policy that should be followed. After the session, one of the Democrats characterized him as "a trendy McGovernite liberal". Another said he was "horrified" to find how bad Dukakis's instincts on foreign policy were.

More than any other prominent Democrat, Michael Dukakis has persuaded voters he is not a reactionary tax-and-spend liberal but a born-again champion of economic growth and new technology. This will be a big plus. But more than almost any other leading Democrat, Dukakis has also saddled himself with the kind of self-righteous, isolationist foreign policy that went out of fashion a decade ago. This will not help against George Bush. In fact Bush strategists see it as his chief vulnerability.

The core of the Dukakis problem is that he has learned nothing from either Carter's mistakes or Reagan's successes. Take Carter's *faux pas* of saying that countries friendly to the United States but lacking full democracy might face the withdrawal of US military forces. Carter singled out South Korea, causing near panic in the Far

East and at the Pentagon. But he soon realized this would only shrink American influence, and US forces stayed put.

Dukakis is still bent on punishing South Korea. He recently said that American troops might have to pull back to Japan because in South Korea "human and labour rights have been trampled... Notwithstanding what may be viewed as some short-term weakening of our defence posture in a particular part of the world, I think we have to be prepared to get very tough with countries that want our arms... but aren't prepared to provide their citizens with basic human and labour rights."

Dukakis also said that US military aid to Pakistan is "troubling" because of its efforts to build a nuclear weapon. He insisted that he would be "very tough on Pakistan" even if that impeded America's ability to supply anti-communist rebels in Afghanistan.

Had this crazy policy been followed in the past, the Afghan rebels would not have received the Stinger missiles and other arms — all of which go through Pakistan — that enabled them to fight the Soviet occupation forces to a standstill and persuaded Gorbachov to withdraw all 115,000 troops in Moscow's most dramatic setback since the Second World War. Dukakis would jeopardize all this for the sake of inflexible compliance with a nuclear non-proliferation treaty that the Russians honour mostly in the breach.

Carter stopped production of the B-1 bomber and banned deployment of the neutron bomb without getting any *quid pro quo* from Moscow. Similarly Dukakis loves to tick off a list of the weapons he would unilaterally jettison: the B-1, the MX missile, the Midgetman missile, the Star Wars anti-missile system, maybe the Stealth bomber and the D-5 submarine missile. For all his peaceful gestures, Carter wound up with a treaty, Salt II, that was never ratified and was later scorned by Reagan. The moral seems to have been lost on Dukakis.

Unlike Carter, who sheepishly withdrew his first arms-control proposal when it was rejected by the Soviets, Reagan put forward his proposal on medium-range missiles and left it on the table for six years. When the Soviets balked, Reagan went ahead with deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles, designed to counter the Soviet SS-20s, and stood firm when the Soviets stalked out of arms talks in Geneva. By doing so he achieved the INF Treaty, the first arms

pact that actually reduces the number of nuclear weapons. He and Gorbachov signed it in Washington last December. Ratification is all but certain.

On intercontinental missiles, Reagan has been equally as servile. He accelerated development of Star Wars. The Russians complained bitterly, but they began making concessions after concession. And by 1988 Reagan was on the verge of a new treaty that could lead to big cuts in missile forces.

Labour Party, and certainly the TGWU, continue to live with the shadow of that 1960 vote, even though it was reversed a year later and was not fully reinstated until after Labour's defeat in the 1979 election.

This is the inheritance which Ron Todd, the present TGWU general secretary, carries in his baggage. His union, still the biggest in Britain, has played a crucial role over many years in influencing Labour's defence policy, both for and against rearmament. Of course, it must be emphasized that Todd does it willingly, and with passionate conviction. He is as firm in his support for unilateral nuclear disarmament as any of his predecessors, such as Cousins and Jack Jones.

But Todd has problems which neither Cousins nor Jones had to face. When they were general secretaries of the TGWU and Labour was in office, unilateral nuclear disarmament was not

official Labour policy, even though it was the policy of the transport union. Though, at times, it was intolerably hot in Labour's kitchen, they both learned to live with their differences. Nor did Todd's predecessors have a Labour leader who was a sponsored MP of the TGWU, as Neil Kinnock is.

Hence the suggestion, true or not, that it was Ron Todd's elbow in his ribs that persuaded Kinnock to change course again on defence policy after he appeared to be in the process of dropping the old commitment to unilateralism. We now have the spectacle of yet another shambles over Labour's defence policy. Todd won't shift in his view. Nor is there any likelihood of the TGWU executive permitting him to waver, even if he wanted to. So what can Kinnock do to restore his political credibility?

There is only one way open to him. If he genuinely wants to re-think Labour's defence policy in

the light of the extraordinary changes now taking place in international relations, then he has to square up to his own union. Painful and difficult though it will be, the Labour leader must face down the TGWU on this issue. Somehow Kinnock has to demonstrate his independence, not only from the transport union, but equally from any other trade union which seeks to commit him to a policy which he himself believes electorally unfeasible.

Will it look like open defiance of party conference decisions? Would such boldness play into the hands of Tony Benn, who now persistently accuses Kinnock of flouting "democratically-reached conference decisions"?

The truth is that Kinnock now has no politically realistic option but to fight for what seems to be his own view: that international events, especially the Gorbachov-Reagan develop-

ments, have overtaken all the old rigid Labour Party commitments demanding a go-it-alone policy to be pursued by a future Labour government.

That policy seriously undermined Labour in last year's general election, during which Kinnock perceptibly distanced himself from the trade union "image". Not because he has any wish to pursue what he knows to be an absurd nostrum about "separating" the Labour Party from the unions, but because he has no illusion about the trade unions' poor public image.

It has always been an exceptionally difficult task for any Labour leader to tread the fine line between acknowledging the debt to, and the spiritual connection with, the trade unions, while at the same time acting as an independent political force, a potential prime minister and speaking in the overall national interest. The task has become no easier with time.

Yet for Kinnock there can be no other path, and he knows it more than most. He also knows the price he and the Labour Party will have to pay for failure. The author, former *Industrial Editor* of the *Daily Mirror*, was head of the Labour government's counter-inflation policy unit, 1975-76.

Geoffrey Goodman urges boldness in the Labour defence row

Why Kinnock can win

Fred Barnes

Danger: Dukakis abroad



Dukakis has challenged Gorbachov to set a timetable for getting out of Afghanistan and thus prove he is "serious about strengthening the role of the United Nations in regional conflict". Does Dukakis really believe Gorbachov relishes such a UN role? He has also said that he and Gorbachov should each raise \$500 million for an international humanitarian relief fund. But when did Gorbachov show any interest in humanitarian relief? It is he who props up a regime in Ethiopia that is starving millions.

Dukakis embraces the most trendy brand of isolationism, namely multilateralism. He has never heard of an international organization whose judgement he would not substitute for that of an American president. He acts as if he were running for UN secretary-general.

US aid to the Nicaraguan Contras is wrong, according to Dukakis, because the Organization of American States has not contained it; the Monroe Doctrine has been "superseded" by the Rio Treaty, which requires a multilateral approach to any crisis in the Americas. Nor should the US have sent a naval force to the Gulf; that's a job for the UN. Tilting toward Iraq, which is the Reagan policy, won't end the war with Iran; that too is up to the UN.

All of this would be fine if the OAS and UN were capable of action on behalf of peace and democracy. But they are not. The OAS could not even decide recently who to accept as Panama's ambassador. How can the US expect it to act decisively against the Sandinistas in Nicaragua? Of course, Dukakis's view is that the Sandinistas should be left alone so long as they don't acquire offensive missiles from the Soviets.

As bad as Dukakis's instincts are, they might be tempered by his desire to win the presidency. To some extent his foreign-policy positions are tactical appeals to the liberals who dominate the Democratic presidential primary electorate. Once he had wrapped up the nomination in April he began, slightly to mute his old views, to say:

"A lot of Republicans think of Dukakis as hopelessly liberal."

says Todd Domke, a Republican consultant in Massachusetts. But he's a political animal. He believes in winning. He can reinvent himself.

Dukakis now says he expects to maintain defence spending at roughly the current level and talks about beefing up conventional forces. He says the Soviets must make "deeper cuts" than the US in ground forces in Europe. He is searching for issues on which he can sound tough and nationalistic, and on which he can characterize Bush as the opposite.

Oddly enough, Dukakis is the first Democrat fully to exploit the best issue against the Republican party and Bush. It is not the diversion of money to the Contras, which most Democrats have concentrated on, but — the foundation of the whole affair — the sale of arms to Iran. While Bush's role in Iran is clouded, he has confessed to having approved the sale. So Dukakis brings it up constantly.

The decision in 1985, made by the President and approved by the Vice-president, was the worst possible thing we could have done, and we'll be suffering the consequences for a long time," he said recently. The consequence, he added, was more terrorism.

Reagan has inadvertently helped Dukakis in another way. This year he has made foreign policy less of an issue, so making Dukakis's foreign-policy views less of an albatross. For Republicans the best presidential issue is always the Soviet threat. Voters think that Republicans are better at combating the Soviets than the Democrats are.

But what Soviet threat is there in 1988? Reagan and Gorbachov have held four summits. And if Dukakis is mushy on Gorbachov, Reagan is downright sentimental, asserting constantly that Gorbachov is better than all previous Soviet leaders. With an ally like Reagan, Dukakis doesn't have to worry about what hard-line Democrats in Washington think of him.

The author writes for *The New Republic*. This article first appeared in *The Washingtonian*.

Commentary • PETER BRIMELOW

The truth, gender-bent

New York. One of the small joys of New York life is watching Professor Michael Levin get up at public meetings to say the unsayable, loudly. Every age has its definition of obscenity, but while obscenity itself is fairly acceptable in America today, there is a wide range of taboos here, mostly to do with race and gender, that would impress the most superstitious savage (or "differently cultured person" as he is now more likely to be called).

The sight of any such taboo brings a glint to Levin's eye. He is perfectly ready and more than willing, for example, to suggest to a black intellectual that his racial problems might be due to a hereditary IQ deficiency.

Since the feminist movement is the source of many of the most powerful contemporary taboos, it was probably inevitable that Levin would write an entire book about it (*Feminism and Freedom*, published by Transaction Press).

Levin teaches philosophy at New York's City College, and his book is perhaps the most systematic, closely reasoned and rigorous review of the theory and practice of feminism ever published. It would appear perfectly designed for the 15,000-20,000 "women's studies" courses now being taught in American colleges. But Levin is quite confident that it will be assigned in none of them.

field of academic inquiry, but a radical social doctrine. It begins by evading the evidence, which Levin shows to be overwhelming, that there are innate and immutable differences between men and women. It ends by denying the concept of truth itself.

Thus Levin quotes a feminist academic, Ruth Bleier, in her book, *Science and Gender*: "Truth, reality and objectivity are all in trouble from our point of view; we see a male-created truth, a male point of view, a male-defined objectivity". Similarly he quotes Renate Klein: "The postulate of *Value Free Research* of neutrality and indifference towards the research objects, has to be replaced by *Conscious Partiality*...".

The result is what a third feminist theorist, Blanche Dubois, calls "Passionate Scholarship". "Feminism withdraws from the patriarchal construction of reality". Ironically, Levin notes, this sounds very much like the traditional misogynist argument that women are incapable of putting aside their emotions — with the difference that the misogynist values "thinking like a man", while the feminist abhors it.

This notion that truth is adjustable has spread a long way. *Guidelines* issued to authors by major American text publishers require the suppression of inconvenient realities such as the tendency of males and females to choose different occupations.

"We are more interested in emphasizing what can be," announces the Macmillan firm (no longer related to its British parent) "than the negatives that still exist".

When the Sears Roebuck department store sought to defend itself against a sex discrimination law suit by citing evidence that women preferred less demanding jobs, feminist historians publicly demanded that their colleagues not allow their "scholarship" to be used for an anti-feminist purpose, regardless of the justice of Sears' position.

As Chairman Mao recommended, feminism puts politics in command. There is a word for this phenomenon: totalitarianism. Feminism seeks to reproduce in society what one feminist guide for teachers recommends in schools: if pupils voluntarily segregate by sex, force them to stop.

One hot New York night last week, on the day that the Supreme Court upheld a law compelling all-male club to desegregate, I had dinner with Professor Levin. Despite his public combativeness, he is a charming and remarkably cheerful man in his mid-forties. All-female clubs, he commented, will probably be allowed to continue. A New Jersey law banning sex discrimination has been enforced in such a way as to compel a football team to admit girls but to allow a hockey team to exclude boys.

Levin's lectures have been the target of demonstrations by radical students, and he says without visible rancour that his career has probably been hurt by

JUNE 25 ON THIS DAY 1928

The airship *Italia*, designed by General Umberto Nobile (1885-1978) was forced down 180 miles north-east of Spitzbergen. Nobile and some of his men were ultimately saved, but the explorer Roald Amundsen, conqueror of the South Pole, who set out in a seaplane to help in the search, was never heard of again.

GENERAL NOBILE RESCUED

S.S. QUEST, VIRGO BAY (SPITZBERGEN), JUNE 24. After a preliminary reconnaissance an aeroplane of the Swedish expedition landed on the ice last night near General Nobile's tent. It succeeded in picking up General Nobile and brought him to Whale Island, Hinlopen Strait, this morning.

The expedition is planning to rescue the other members of General Nobile's party, two men at a time.

The accident happened to the *Italia* on May 25, but it was not until June 9 that wireless communication was established with General Nobile. With him were five companions, three men having started to walk across the ice and seven being carried away east in the balloon part of the *Italia*.

AMUNDSEN STILL MISSING

OSLO, JUNE 24. Major Madeleena and Major Penso flew on Friday over General Nobile's Camp for two hours. The part on the ice was more clearly seen than on the previous occasions, the airman even seeing General Nobile's little dog Titina jumping about. Hovering over the camp, the airman dropped supplies. They made no search for the balloon party and saw nothing of Dr. Malmgren's party or of the Latham seaplane in which are Captain Amundsen and Commander Gullhaug.

At 10 o'clock on Saturday morning Major Penso, in excellent weather, flew towards South Cape in a search for Captain Amundsen. He returned to-night after a flight along the coast to South Cape and back. He saw nothing of Captain Amundsen. Major Penso thinks the Latham machine was compelled to descend on Bear Island waters. The coal steamer *Marita* arrived here yesterday (Saturday) from Tromsø having on board the Finnish seaplane engaged for the search of the *Italia*'s crew. The leader of the Finnish expedition, Lieutenant Sarko, said that when the steamer was off the foreland on Friday night he listened for wireless from 10pm. He caught by 11 o'clock an SOS signal, and other messages were indistinctly received. He could not tell whence they came.

The collection of modern masterpieces... High pollen... One of these...



1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

The Thyssen affair

KEEPERS AWAKE!

There has long been much to wonder at in the manner that established British institutions approach matters of national interest; but rarely so much as the way in which the masters of the museum world have responded to the British bid to acquire the Thyssen art collection. The gallery keepers believe that their cause has fared ill under Mrs Thatcher's prime ministership. From this they appear to have deduced that any official enthusiasm for great paintings abroad is a snub to those who keep them at home.

The Thyssen-Bornemisza collection of paintings is today based at Baron Thyssen's Swiss villa. His trustees wish to find it the best permanent home. Many countries have put forward proposals and the final choice appears now between Spain, which is in the process of agreeing arrangements to house the works for up to ten years, and Britain, which has reached an advanced state of discussions to have them here.

The British bid came relatively late, following the success of the exhibition from the collection which *The Times* sponsored earlier this year. With the strong personal backing of the Prince of Wales and the Prime Minister, Britain has offered £100 million for the pictures and £25 million to build a special gallery.

The bid has a chance of success. The Baron is a man of honour who will not renege on clear commitments; but he is understandably concerned that the remarkable collection, built with love and skill by himself and his father, should rest in the most fitting arena.

The Spanish are confident after a visit to Madrid in which the Baron was feted as though the loan to them were a gift for ever. Supporters of the British bid can take comfort from the Baron's reiterated commitment to the continuing British offer after his return from Madrid. The outcome is still unclear.

There is every reason why the paintings should be kept in Spain until a permanent place for them in London is prepared. There is no reason why the collection should not be housed in London in a way which celebrates the links between Britain and Spain. It would be an wholly unnecessary and regrettable outcome if the affair were allowed to worsen those relations in any way.

The need for a civilized debate

Thus it is important that the rivalry between competing friendly nations is conducted in a civilized manner. Currently the only truly uncivilized attitudes in the affair emanate from Britain — from those powerful forces within our art world who wish the initiative to fail.

This has thus become an opportunity for outsiders to look into the minds of those who control our national collections of art. Do we find (what we should expect) the attitudes of aesthetic appreciation, intellectual curiosity and entrepreneurial challenge or (what we may fear) the dead cells of self-satisfaction and interest?

In a letter in *The Independent* this week Sir Michael Levey, the recently retired director of the National Gallery, claims that, having so severely cut purchasing grants for museums, the Government is "behaving like a group of incompetent and lazy gardeners, neglecting the flower beds they are employed to cultivate, but dashing into the street to try to grab a bouquet or orchids from a passing barrow". A leading professor of art writes in the same newspaper that "the collection is nowhere near as good as it is made out to be... too many of the pictures do not live up to the names assigned to them."

In a letter to *The Times* yesterday, the editor of the influential arts magazine, *Apollon*, asked for the £100 million to be given to British museums if the bid were to fail, an outcome which she would by no means deplore. There have been a few honourable exceptions — but most of the reaction has been in this same carping vein.

Something very strange is going on. There are certain artists at certain times who influence the way that all their successors see the world, not just artists but the rest of us too. Old masters are just that.

In the Thyssen collection we see a magnificent group of early Renaissance portraits, alive with awakening humanism, their presence all the more vivid for the intimate scale which characterizes the collection as a whole. What does the museum keeper see? An opportunity to find the master on an "off day"?

When we see Antonello da Messina's startlingly direct portrait of a man; when we see Hans Memling's double-sided panel, on the one a still, quiet man kneeling in prayer, on the other an exquisite, austere vase of flowers, what does he see? An opportunity to claim that his gallery roof leaks or that his staff need a pay rise.

The collection contains some 1,500 old and modern masterpieces. There are magnificent impressionists. There is Albrecht Dürer's *Christ Among the Doctors*, an image of

inspiration to any who may witness it: Caravaggio's *Saint Catherine of Alexandria*, a masterpiece from Europe's great innovator in dramatic effect through light; El Greco's *Annunciation* in the idiosyncratic palette of acid yellow, terracotta, and midnight blue. For us the sights go on and on.

A number of the paintings have a value in terms of the strictly British heritage which, had they been threatened with export, would have driven the lobbyists for state aid to despair. Canaletto's *View of Warwick Castle from the South* was bought by the present Baron 10 years ago and may now come home. So too might Holbein's great portrait of Henry VIII in which the artist uses the delicate skills of a miniaturist to portray a monument.

Passion of the great collectors

Paintings such as this are available so rarely that we must perhaps forgive those who cavil over their attempted purchase for Britain. They are maybe overwhelmed. These are not works bought by committee. They are selected by means of the very force which motivates great art itself: personal passion.

Those who challenge the bid on grounds of quality would certainly have declined the Wallace Collection. What would they have said to Elias Ashmole who offered his collection to Oxford University in 1675 on condition that it built a suitable repository? What would they have advised Parliament in 1824, when the collection of John Julius Angerstein was on offer to the Prince of Orange and the House of Commons voted £60,000 for paintings by Claude, Rubens and Rembrandt, the core of today's National Gallery?

They would have doubtless felt happier with the decision in 1779 not to buy Lord Robert Walpole's collection, thus losing to the Russians paintings by Rubens, Van Dyck and Giordano; or that of 1823, when Britain failed to respond to Sir George Beaumont's offer to give his collection to the nation as soon as proper accommodation could be provided; or the loss of the Calouste Gulbenkian collection to Portugal in the 1950s.

But, they say, under Mrs Thatcher's Prime Ministership decisions like this have been continually forced upon them for lack of funds. What then of this argument? Is the occupier of 10 Downing Street the excitable and neglectful gardener described by the former National Gallery director?

In the past nine years Mrs Thatcher has certainly questioned what she perceives as "the museum society" — one in which only yesterday is worshipped and the icon of heritage is held up to obliterate tomorrow. This attitude used to extend far beyond museums. Her administration has been less generous than the keepers would have liked — just as it has to other institutions.

But let us suppose that the fate of the Thyssen collection has attracted Mrs Thatcher to the importance of old master paintings to Britain. Let us put ourselves in the position of a suspicious curator and suppose that the interest is entirely nationalistic (another EEC scrap) or economic (another boost for tourism). Even in that case, would it not be wise to support the initiative, in the reasonable hope that such an interest is likely to be in their interests too? On what basis, psychological, political, or otherwise, do so many decide the opposite?

Celebration of British revival

To bite the hand that feeds, albeit they would say drip-feeds you, shows a political naivety of a high order. It reveals above all how strikingly few national museum directors, even amongst recent appointments, have come to grips with the spirit of the decade. To have welcomed the move would have laid a foundation stone from which to argue their case that museums and galleries can combine good business sense with a practical vision of tomorrow.

The fact that Baron Thyssen should even think of housing his collection here is a huge symbol of the reversal of British fortunes. We should take pride in that — and use economic success and security as a strong part of our case.

It is argued that Britain, and particularly London, is saturated with art. Over the last five years, Paris has opened the new Musée D'Orsay for 19th century art; the new Picasso museum; and is currently transforming and modernising the Louvre. But instead having a saturating effect on the population, art has become addictive. Parisians and their visitors cheerfully queue to see what is old and what is new.

The collection would, indeed, enhance our cultural and economic life — but to a large extent because it is already a success. In an eventual home in Britain the Thyssen-Bornemisza collection would be secure in itself and a celebrant of regeneration.

What is more important is the relative diurnal value (high or low) and the relative trend (up or down), and it is on this basis that asthma and hay-fever sufferers need to be alerted. Yours faithfully, DICK BRYANT, JEAN MORRIS-HILL, The Polytechnic of North London, Department of Geography, The Marlborough Building, 383 Holloway Road, N7, June 22.

High pollen counts

From Dr Dick Bryant and others

Sir, Variations in pollen counts between nearby sites are not necessarily a product of different sampling techniques, as implied by your report. "Aboriginal promise of a long, sneezing summer" (June 21), which alluded to the difference between the St Mary's Paddington count and the Islington count taken at the Polytechnic of North London.

We have been running two types of volumetric pollen trap side by side since the beginning of the summer and they have recorded counts consistently within 10 per cent of each other.

One of these samplers is similar to that used by St Mary's and is a

Hooliganism on the Thames

From Mr John Langfield

Sir, Yesterday my wife, my two small daughters and I took a trip up river, in the sort of boat that a century ago might have carried Jerome K. Jerome's river-lovers to Henley.

Passing under a bridge, our attention was drawn by a crowd of gesticulating youths to a football floating underneath. Jenny, a helpful eight-year-old, reached out to retrieve it for them. As she did so, our open boat was "bombed" by four of the gang jumping into the river from above us, two on each side, as close as possible so as to cause the maximum splash and disturbance.

We were all soaked; Susie (6) was left clinging to the bows crying in fear, and it would have been the easiest thing in the world for the boat to have gone over, or indeed for this to be only one stage further for it to have been deliberately capsized by those apparently intent on terrorising us.

I asked the youths how they knew our children could swim; the only answer I received was the all too familiar four-letter injunction.

All this happened less than a mile from Windsor Castle. We subsequently covered the entire stretch between Romney and Boveney locks; not one policeman nor Thames Water Authority launch was to be seen, on what must have been the busiest Sunday afternoon of the year so far. The hooligans "game" continued unchecked — except that Jenny did have the presence of mind to retain their ball, which we deposited at the nearest lock.

England's oldest highway has seen many sights; but I venture to say that attacks of this sort on women and children are something new. Have your readers any suggestions for preserving the freedom of the river, or must the Thames go the way of the football terraces?

Yours faithfully, JOHN LANGFIELD, The River House, Eton College, Windsor, Berkshire, June 20.

Full with horrors

From Mrs Katharine Moore

Sir, I looked today to see what might provide food for mind and heart on television in the evening and at peak listening time I found that three of the four channels were offering plays concerning murder with thuggery and rape thrown in, while, for a relief, Channel 4 had "Korea, the Unknown War".

This is not exceptional and surely it tends to establish violence as a norm of society. Enough is more than enough, and it is also so boring. Yours sincerely, KATHARINE MOORE, Riverside House, Shoreham, Sevenoaks, Kent, June 18.

Choir losses

From Professor Gordon Reynolds

Sir, We are dependent here for our supply of choristers upon local schools. I can report that, during the last 22 years, they have done us proud. Boys come to us at eight or nine, usually with tiny voices and with very few songs in their heads, but obviously enjoying music and wanting to join their choir. We have to expand their voices and their musical horizons very quickly. They soon achieve a position and responsibility which membership of this small group awards and requires.

I believe the choral decline in many State schools (report, May 20; letters, June 7, 11, 13, 14, 18) stems ultimately from the lack of basic musical skill which young teachers bring to the classroom. For many years now, the teacher's limitations have dictated the content of music lessons. Systems have been devised which keep the teacher aloof, whilst doing little for the pupils.

The gramophone and the wireless in the twenties and thirties paved the way for the eclipse of the piano in home and school. Musical appreciation came into fashion. In the fifties and sixties classroom instruments provided a neat way of popping a little elementary music into the heads of the greatly expanded numbers of teachers under training.

The music itself was essentially terse and limited — handy for the teacher, if uninspiring for the children. Classes who could cheerfully roar the "Hallelujah" chorus, given a decent pianist, had to manage with "Summer goodbye" because it was pentatonic. The piano is a tremendous help in the teaching of singing, and there are all too few pianists in schools. Yours sincerely, GORDON REYNOLDS (Organist and Master of the Choir), Chapel Royal, Hampton Court Palace, East Molesey, Surrey, June 20.

Broadway victims

From Mr Andrew Lloyd Webber

Sir, In Charles Bremner's article of June 22, he states that I have complained of an anti-British bias in the New York theatre community.

I have never suggested this and do not believe it to be the case. I did say before the Tony Awards that I thought it might not be Britain's turn this year, but happily I was proved wrong. Yours faithfully, ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER, The Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1, June 23.

Recollections on torpedoed liner

From Mrs M. A. Walford

Sir, Thank you for your article and photographs (June 20) about the loss of the City of Benares. Doubtless it will help the stricken parents as well as the survivors to read your tribute, as well as to heal the anguish of those on board her sister ship, the S.S. Antonia. Benares has haunted those of us concerned, ever since September, 1940.

I was in the Antonia with 15 of the children (out of 250) in my care. We were held up in Liverpool, because of the severe bombing, but got away after two days to follow the Benares. Imagine our surprise when we suddenly altered course from westwards to due north and awoke among icebergs.

Nothing was said and I continued with the children on deck singing their favourite "D'ye ken John Peel" etc. Word got around, but no details — it was enough...

My shabby old armband, labelled as "Escort to British children", still comes out to our Armistice Day service, meaning very little to anyone but me. Your 77-year-old humble and grateful servant, MOLLY ATKEY WOLFORD, Mundys Court, Long Sutton, Langport, Somerset, June 20.

From Mr Douglas Salmon

Sir, Referring to your story about the sinking of the City of Benares, perhaps what happened to the remaining six child survivors was even more dramatic.

They were adrift for eight days in an open boat containing 47 people in all: some British crew members, many Lascar seamen, and some adult civilians. The latter included the only woman aboard, Miss Mary Cornish, a former teacher at Felkistow College and one of the children's escorts.

It was largely through her efforts that the youngsters survived. She massaged their frozen feet, did her best to keep them warm — nearly all of them were in pyjamas — and kept them cheerful by telling them stories and getting them to sing popular songs of that time.

Eventually the lifeboat was spotted by a Sunderland flying boat and all the people on board were picked up by the destroyer, HMS Anthony. Yours faithfully, DOUGLAS SALMON, 79 Church Lane, Eaton, Norwich, Norfolk, June 20.

Tireme trials

From Dr John Morrison and Mr John Coates

Sir, Mr Warry (June 20) raised two questions about the reconstructed Greek tireme Olympics, the first about the stature of the oar crew to fit the ship and the second about the publication of trial results.

Mr Warry rightly suggests that modern competitive rowers from northern Europe tend to be large individuals. Their muscular power can be well exploited with the help of sliding seats in racing shells designed for riverine conditions.

In the tireme the attested distance from one oar to the next is only two ancient Athenian cubits (0.888m). Nevertheless, an oar-handle stroke of 0.86m can be achieved if the stature of the rowers is fairly uniform and at about the average for a modern northern European or American population. For this year's trials at Poros, the Tireme Trust has recruited such a crew.

Detailed results of the British trials in 1987 will be published

At the polytechnics

From the Director of Birmingham Polytechnic

Sir, Dr Winterbourne's letter (June 18) on the use of the title "professor" at this polytechnic calls for a reply. Birmingham Polytechnic confers professorships on individuals who achieve excellence when tested against four criteria — academic leadership, reputation in one's profession, quality as a teacher, and record of achievement in research and consultancy.

This polytechnic deliberately places great emphasis on the work that academic staff undertake in partnership with industry and commerce. Staff are entitled to apply for the award of professor, but the title is only conferred after written advice has been received from a number of referees and a recommendation has been made by a conference panel, which includes two external assessors.

Yours sincerely, PETER C. KNIGHT, Director, City of Birmingham Polytechnic, Perry Barr, Birmingham, West Midlands, June 22.

From Professor Nicholas J. Birch

Sir, As a newly-promoted professor of biomedical science at The Polytechnic, Wolverhampton, I find Dr Winterbourne's letter particularly offensive. In the School of Applied Science at this

Measure for measure

From Mr R. J. Nash

Sir, In light of Mr Prowse's comments on the slide rule (June 21), I have been intrigued to see them for sale this week for £3.90 in a nationally famous stationery store. But is anyone buying them? Yours respectfully, R. J. NASH, 89 Tower Road, Boston, Lincolnshire, June 21.

Chapel glass in Ely Cathedral

From the Secretary, Cathedrals Advisory Commission for England

Sir, Mr David Peace (June 21) speaks of the decision by the Dean and Chapter of Ely Cathedral to "remove and scrap all the old glass, except medieval fragments" from the Lady Chapel. He does not mention that all the non-medieval glass in the chapel, with the exception of one clear-glazed window, dates from the latter half of the 19th century.

In the 25 years since I first knew and loved the Lady Chapel I have rarely met anyone who seemed to admire the present late 19th-century glazing. Its greenish tone gives one the unenvying feeling of being under water, and the overwhelming majority of the cathedral's fabric advisory group — of which I am a member — has recommended its replacement with the kiln-distorted glazing which has already been successfully used in some of the triforium windows of the nave.

Whilst there is no "wrong" or "right" in such a case, some of us feel that this replacement will not only remove the uncomfortable sub-aqueous feeling but will restore that wondrous sense of space and light which we often encounter in the larger clear-glazed medieval churches of East Anglia.

I would add that 46 trays of medieval glass, in store since the war, are available for reuse, and a scheme has been commenced for placing this fine 14th-century glass in the central south window of the Lady Chapel. Another £45,000 is required to fulfil this recommendation.

Yours faithfully, PETER BURMAN, Secretary, The Cathedrals Advisory Commission for England, 83 London Wall, EC2, June 22.

From the Dean of Ely

Sir, It is precisely because this Dean and Chapter recognises that four clergymen are unlikely to have the expertise necessary for so great a restoration as that being undertaken at Ely that we created our fabric advisory group 2½ years ago. This committee includes four members of the Cathedrals Advisory Commission and anticipates, both in its composition and activity, much that may become mandatory under the terms of the Continuing Care of Cathedrals Measure.

It has now met on 20 occasions and has been generous and painstaking in its advice to the Chapter. The success of the programme to restore the nave and north aisle roof and the painted ceiling of the nave, now running five weeks ahead of schedule and still marginally under budget, is largely due to its assistance.

In the case of the Lady Chapel, consideration of appropriate glazing began in April, 1987, and it was at our meeting held on May 10, 1988, with two additional representatives of the Cathedrals Advisory Commission specially present, that a recommendation was made to reglaze the windows with kiln-distorted clear glass.

I do not complain that Mr Peace does not agree with what we propose, but I do find the accusation that the Chapter and I have behaved unconstitutionally and irresponsibly hard to bear.

Yours sincerely, BILL PATTERSON, Dean, Ely Cathedral, Chapter House, The College, Ely, Cambridgeshire, June 22.

mentioned by John Clare, even though it is far more visible and thorough than in the university sector.

The polytechnics face a continuing battle against misinformation and prejudice. Let me assure readers of *The Times* that the quality of our applied chemistry degree is guaranteed by application of rigorous validation to national standards by those whose job it is to know. Yours sincerely, M. GOLDSTEIN, Director, Coventry Polytechnic, Priory Street, Coventry, West Midlands, June 20.

Uneasy on the ear

From Mrs A. W. J. Hall

Sir, Some years ago, the West Riding Education Committee published in a bulletin a light-hearted "examination paper" for newcomers to South Yorkshire. This concerned the language in common use in the Sheffield area, and consisted of 50 statements to be translated.

The following 10 questions are a selection. Time allowed, 20 seconds. Marking as follows: one correct — you are obviously an immigrant from Sussex; five correct — you are on your way to being a settler. Nine correct — you probably come from Lancashire. All correct — it is time you brushed up your Queen's English.

1. Gessazintiz burbericaz.
2. Eez gunna gerra lorra lolly ferrit.
3. Corfous apastate timornin.
4. Taniad nowr dunnait as I nose ont.
5. Summatsuppeer.
6. Initio?
7. Abberintinter.
8. Ateidim burreewant lissen.
9. Ourrezen?
10. Purremiser.
Tarra, seeya.
PAULINE HALL, The Orchard, Arkholme, Carnforth, Lancashire, June 21.

Larder for the Roman legions

The concluding part of the guide covers the heartland of the industrial cities of the north and the wilds of Brontë country

KEY
 Free admission
 Admission charge
 Admission donation
 requested
 Disabled facilities
 Refreshments
 Completely new
 New elements
 Not to be missed
 Temporary exhibitions
 Parking

NORTH-WEST

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE
 Portland Basin Industrial Heritage Centre, Portland Street South, 061 308 3374. Ring to check opening. **★** Industrial development in the crucial years of the growth of canals, at the junction of the three of them — the Ashton, the Huddersfield Narrow and the Peak Forest. Opens on July 9 in converted warehouse. Narrow boat trips on the canal also start here.

Museum of the Manchester
 Ashton Town Hall, the Market Place, 061 344 3078. **CI** Sun. **★** A military museum with a difference, looking at the effects of the Manchester Regiment's stationing here 1861-1958.

BIRDOSWALD
 near Gilsland, near Carlisle. **Op** daily. **★** Hadrian's Wall, and an archaeological dig which is revealing a lot about the wall — and its use after the Romans. Viewing platform for visitors seven days a week throughout the summer, display of finds and explanatory panels.

BOLTON
 Museum and Art Gallery, Le Mans Crescent, 0204 22311. **CI** Sun, Wed, BH. **★** **Op** **★** June 23-July 22, an exhibition without the prime exhibit, *Body in the Bog*, traces the investigation of Lindesay man, now the subject of a good-natured tug-of-war between the British and Manchester Museums.

CARLISLE
 Carlisle Cathedral. Mon-Fri, to end August. Plans for a new underground treasury museum next year, but meanwhile the archaeologists are having a go hoping to find St Cuthbert's Anglo-Saxon monastery in the public gaze. Mon-Fri, to the end of August.

ELLESMEYER PORT
 Boat Museum, Dockyard Rd. 051 355 0517. **Op** daily in summer. **★** **Op** **★** Where the Manchester Ship meets the Shropshire Union. New feature, Port's Row cottages, four quayside watermen's dwellings restored to represent 1840s, 1900s, 1930s and 1950s.

GRASMERE
 Dove Cottage and the Wordsworth Museum. 09665 544. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Special exhibition on neighbour poet, *Matthew Arnold*, July 22 onwards.

HELLMESHORE
 Rosendale, Lancs. Textile Museum, Higher Mill, Holcombe Rd. 0706 225459. **CI** Sat-Sun July and Aug. **★** **Op** **★** Two former textile mills tell the tale of the Rosendale Valley textile industry, now has a link with the Bury to Rawthorpe East Lancs steam railway.

JODRELL BANK
 near Manchester, 0477 71339. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** The domain of the Astronomer Royal, Sir Francis Graham-Smith, went public a year ago and now has a new "hands-on" exhibition, an exploration of "forces in the Universe in which you can ride in a gyro-chair among other things, and Reflections where you can shake hands with yourself. Also a Video Wall which explains satellite communications, and outside the Granada Arboretum and a play area.

LANCASTER
 Maritime Museum, Custom House, St George's Quay. 0524 64637. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** The times its size since last year, with reconstructed canal barge trading at the quayside. Ashton Memorial, also restored, with permanent exhibition on Edwardian life and Lord Ashton, "Mr Lancaster". Also new, the Butterfly House nearby.

Judges' Lodgings
 Church Street, 0524 3280-8. **CI** Sun. **★** **Op** **★** Jacobean house used to celebrate local furniture makers Gillows. Special feature is the world's most expensive billiard table, made by Gillows in 1820s bought in the winter for £27,000; next year there'll be demonstrations on it — when they've reinforced the floor.

LIVERPOOL
 National Museums & Galleries of Merseyside, funded by central government, has the Liverpool Museum, Walker Art Gallery, Museum of Labour History, Merseyside Maritime Museum and St George's Hall.

Liverpool Museum
 William Brown Street. 051 207 0001. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Pharaohs and Mortals: Egyptian Art in the Middle Kingdom, 18-Sept. 4 (see under CAMBRIDGE); ceramics gallery

now open; natural history centre open afternoons June 23-Sept. 11; new planetarium show opens July 15.

Merseyside Maritime Museum
 Pier Head, Albert Dock. 051 709 1551. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** RMS Titanic until end of year; new permanent exhibition, *Safe Passage*, about making the Mersey and Liverpool bay safe for shipping; July 26 another new gallery, *Art at Sea*, opens.

Walker Art Gallery
 William Brown St. 051 227 5234. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Stephen Farthing, retrospective for young painter, June 25-Aug 7; Whistler Prints from the Collection, July 17-Sept 15; Henry Peach Robinson, Victorian photographer, from the Barbican, Aug 17-Sept 18.

Museum of Labour History
 William Brown Street. 051 207 0001. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Really museum of Liverpool's social history, Golden Years of Cinema, July 5-Sept 25.

St George's Hall
 Lime Street. 051 207 0001. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Classic neo-classical building being restored. Open until Sept 4 to see, for instance, wonderful Minton tile floor, and the third largest organ in the country.

Tate Gallery
 Albert Dock. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Already the dock is getting more than a million people a year. The new James Stirling-designed Tate was opened by Prince Charles in May to bring some aesthetic prestige and Starlit Waters: British Sculpture and International Art 1968-88, until Sept 5; also Surrealism and Mark Rothko: The Seagram Museum Project, until next year.

MACCLESFIELD
 Silk Museum, Rose Street. 0625 2001. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Opened last summer and still developing. New display shows the home life of the children who worked at the looms.

Paradise Silk Mill
 Park Lane. 0625 618228. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** With Jacquard looms restored to demonstrate skills of silk weavers, see it in the same mood as the new museum, they're quite close.

MANCHESTER
 Museum of Science and Industry, Liverpool Rd Station, Castletide, 061 832 2244. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Was the world's oldest station. Newest permanent show is Underground Manchester on the development of sewerage and water supply from Roman to modern times, including an outside loo that flushes when you walk by; starts with a cholera graveyard, ends with a fountain.

The Manchester Museum
 The University, Oxford Rd. 061 275 2000. **CI** Sun. **★** **Op** **★** 1987 Museum of the Year, despite beleaguered state in common with all university museums, now has new mammal galleries, complete with built-your-own-mammal computer game, thanks to sponsorship.

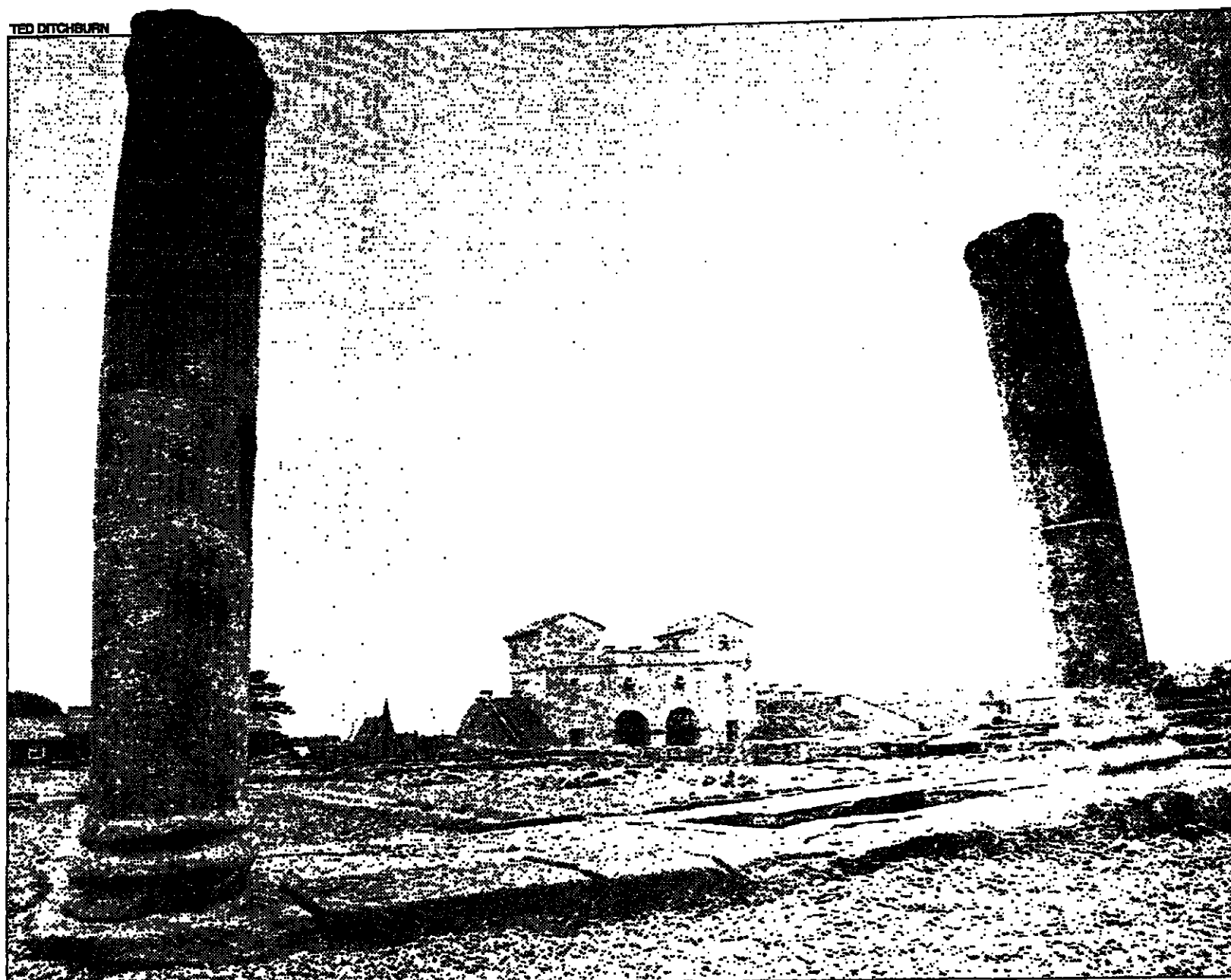
Whitworth Gallery
 The University, Oxford Rd. 061 273 4865. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Centenary next year, a peg for enormous subject of new gallery space. Main show is *The Subversive Stitch*, until Aug 28, women and embroidery 1300-1900.

Manchester City Art Gallery
 Mosley Street. 061 236 8422. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Should never be missed, but worth a mention anyway for *Clay*, July 23-Sept 11, (the use of clay by artists like Picasso, Miro, and craftsman, demonstrated). Until July 3 there is a chance to see the acclaimed Arts Council exhibition of the work of constructivist sculptor Naum Gabo before it goes to Birmingham.

MARYPORT
 Cumbria, Maritime Museum, 1 Seaside Street. 0900 813738. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Just acquired a Clyde tug, the *Flying Buzzard*, big enough to have 45-minute guided tours, steam up on certain days (0900-815954 to find out when). Also a VIC 96 (virtually inshore craft) opening at the end of July with its hold turned into a gallery.

PADHAM
 Lancs, near Burnley Gawthorpe Hall, Rachel Kay-Shuttleworth Trust Textile Collections. 0282 78511. **CI** Mon & Tues, Mon only July, Aug. **★** **Op** **★** More than 12,000 embroideries from worldwide, opened by the National Trust last year, but now with a craft centre in its Coach House Gallery where the National Exhibition of Children's Embroidery opens, June 20-30, before going on to Hampton Court and Glasgow.

PENRITH
 Museum, Cumbria, Robinson's School, Middlegate. 0768 64671. **CI** Mon in Oct. **★** **Op** **★** Extra exhibition space has been created to do justice to the enormous subject of local girl Lady Anne Clifford, the 17th-century Countess of Dorset and then of Pembroke.



Holding the fort: the site museum of Arbia, a Roman supply base, built for the Emperor Septimius Severus in 163, now in South Shields

South Shields is a town of the 19th century. In the heart of Catherine Cookson country, it is an uncompromising seaside resort of industrial Tyneside. But its very lack of celebrity may have been responsible for a unique landmark which is expected to draw 50,000 visitors this summer: the Arbia Roman Fort.

"It's an urban area with no landscape value, unlike other Roman sites such as Hadstead and Chester," Paul Bidwell, the excavation director, says. "We came up with a project which is a very radical departure."

The project was to reconstruct the fort's gateway in the centre of the town square, and a completely recast site museum. "What makes the fort very important is that South Shields is the only permanent stone-built supply base that has ever been excavated in the whole of the Roman Empire," Bidwell says.

Arbia was built in 163 and was the

larder which supplied the Emperor Septimius Severus in his three-year campaign to subjugate the Scots (he died at York in 211). It continued to be the supply base for the garrisons along Hadrian's Wall through the third and fourth centuries.

"At first it was a fairly conventional fort, but about 40 years later it was enlarged and completely replanned. It became a supply base and the interior of the fort was filled with stone built granaries — 24 of them with a capacity of about 3,500 tons of grain."

Within the gate tower, a typical quartermaster's store of the late 2nd century has been reconstructed with replicas of the kind of foodstuffs, utensils, pottery, glass, tools, weapons, which would have been issued from Arbia. Roman armour and weaponry are displayed in another room.

Objects in the recast museum have been organized to illustrate the life a

Roman soldier. "What we've tried to do is point up the differences between the life of a modern soldier and that of a Roman," Bidwell says. He is the museum's curator. "They had to carry out a lot of tasks which were not military at all: they had a wide range of skills as craftsmen — building, surveying, metalworking, and we've also tried to convey a bit about the religious aspects and leisure activities."

"There were also similarities. Even for the Roman soldier, the army was a profession that offered job security, they served for a set term of 25 years, welfare was well organized, and there were compulsory savings that went towards a retirement grant."

From next Tuesday for a fortnight schools are being invited to act out a day in the life of a Roman soldier, and on Saturday July 2, members of the public can take part in potting, weaving, even preparing Roman food.

Simon Tait

Boat, the largest prehistoric log boat in Britain, which the museum is restoring in its specially created "boatlab" in full public gaze throughout the season.

Old Grammar School
 South Church Side. 0482 222737. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Scheduled ancient monument housing new type of museum after two and a half years' restoration (part of the old town regeneration scheme) — heavy emphasis on community project work to record local history, but starts off with Schoolkids, local people tell about their classroom memories with guest appearances by Billy Bunter, Nicholas Nickleby and the girls of St Trinian's.

Spurn Lightship
 Hull Marina. 0482 222737. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** The 60-year-old guardian which last stood off the Humber Estuary in 1959, now chomped up and on daily parade.

KIRKLEATHAM
 Old Hall Museum, near Radcar, Cleveland. 0642 479500. **CI** Mon. **★** **Op** **★** Next to the 300-year-old hall, a £1.25 million new building with permanent exhibitions on local history and temporary ones throughout this season on the mill and a century of railways.

MORPETH
 Northumberland. Chantry Barge Museum, Bridge St. 0670 519466. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Nine months old and already a Mecca for folk musicians who play in the courtyard on spec.

NEWCASTLE
 Museum of Science and Engineering, Blandford House, Blandford Street. 0632 328789. **CI** Sun. **★** **Op** **★** Looking for young guinea pigs to try out their Science Factory experiments — like the Science Museum's Launch Pad or Bristol's Exploratory — before it opens properly next year. Guaranteed infectious fun.

Stevenson Railway Project
 Killingworth, North Tyneside. 091 232 6789. **CI** Sun. **★** **Op** **★** Brand new, going with the re-opening of part of the North Tyneside railway where Stevenson reigned 150 years ago.

PONTEFRAC
 Museum, Salford Row. 0777 797289. **CI** Sun, BH. **★** **Op** **★** One of the craziest offerings of the season, Very Tasterful, until July 15, is an exhibition of the cake sculpture of Margaret Pilkington.

SHEFFIELD
 City Museum, Weston Park. 0742 768588. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Its famous Benty Grange Saxon helmet has now been recreated as new. Don't miss the biggest collection of cutlery in the world.

or the new wildlife gallery with its formicarium — five animals — which opened 18 months ago and is in for the Museum of the Year Award. Insects, from July 18 to the end of September, is about the art of handwriting.

Ruskin Gallery
 101 Norfolk St. 0742 735239. **CI** Sun. **★** **Op** **★** Edward Lear's Birds, July 9-Sept 3, is a welcome chance to see Lear the artist, one of the finest bird painters in a century of bird painting.

SOUTH SHIELDS
 Arbia Roman Fort, Baring Street. 091 4544093. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Last year's big event was the erection of this facsimile on the foundations of the original 2nd century fort.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES
 Preston Hall Museum, Yarm Rd. 0642 781184. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Tobacco and toy shops added to the Victorian street this year, and a monumental mosaic being created there, as a bandstand is being built in the Victorian park the museum is making outside.

Green Dragon Museum
 Green Dragon Yard. 0642 674306. **CI** Sun. **★** **Op** **★** New display of Stockton pottery, once universal now quite rare, and a tourist information office has now been opened. Exhibition on Stockton Castle continues throughout the period.

WALLSEND
 Heritage Centre, Buddle Street. 091 262 0012. **CI** Sun. **★** **Op** **★** New gallery on the history of this end of Hadrian's Wall covering the Roman period, coal mining, shipbuilding and domestic life with replicas, artifacts, models and panels. The temporary exhibition until July 24 is the British Museum's *Life and Death in Celtic Britain*, followed by nature Conservation in Tyne & Wear.

WAKEFIELD
 Big year for Wakefield — centenary of All Saints Church becoming a cathedral and the town therefore a city. Lots of events for Wakefield 100 festival which is on until July 31. David Mach, the "lyre submarine" sculptor, is creating something to draw the crowds in the Ridings Shopping Centre.

Wakefield Museum
 Wood St. 0824 370211 ext 7190. **CI** Sun, BH. **★** **Op** **★** The world wonder of Charles Waterton, 18th-century adventurer, naturalist, traveller, taxidermist, of nearby Walton Hall is the reason for a new gallery full of his crazy creations. Also Going to School 100 Years Ago, part of the Wakefield festival, until Sept 11.

Wakefield Art Gallery
 Wentworth Terrace. 0824 370211 ext 7190. **CI** Sun, BH. **★** **Op** **★** Norman Adams RA retrospective until June 26, before going to the Royal Academy in the autumn (he lives in West Yorks). July 6-Sept 18, Down to Earth, the mining drawings of Joseph Hermann, part of the festival.

Yorkshire Sculpture Park
 Bretton Hall College, West Bretton, Wakefield. 0924 85302/85579. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** First sculpture park in Britain, and its director, Peter Murray, has just won an award for promoting the arts. Steel Sculpture, until July 3, only chance in Britain to see sculpture made by international group of artists at a working symposium in Germany last year.

YORK
 Major event in Yorkshire this summer is a Celebration of Yorkshire Abbeys, organized jointly by the Yorkshire Museum, English Heritage and the National Trust, celebrated in several places in their collective care. For full details ring 0904 658338.

Yorkshire Museum
 Museum Gardens. 0904 28745. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** History of Christianity in the north in a former convent. Monastic Life in the Modern World, until Aug 28, life the life on the habit belt as the Abbey's festival — not worth missing.

Bar Convent Museum
 Blossom Street. 0904 29359. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Sunday by runs, this tells the history of Christianity in the north in a former convent. Monastic Life in the Modern World, until Aug 28, life the life on the habit belt as the Abbey's festival — not worth missing.

Jorvik Viking Centre
 Coppergate. 0904 55543. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Two years old, actually, but the first of the proliferating breed: a museum without collections, but recreations based on scholarship.

CORRECTION
 Chatham Historic Dockyard is open to the public Wednesday, Sunday and bank holidays. Admission charge for adults in the Oxford Storey is

NORTH-EAST

BEAMISH
 North of England Open Air Museum, Beamish Hall, Chester-le-Street, Stanley. 0207 231811. **Op** daily until mid-Sept when **CI** Mon. **★** **Op** **★** European Museum of 1987, Beamish's recreated Georgian landscape of 1900 get better and better. Next month the colliery pithead complete with working steam winding engine opens; Home Farm has a cattle winter quarters; the station has a coal merchants'.

BERWICK
 Museum and Art Gallery, Berwick Barracks, Ravensdowne. 0289 308473. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Big redevelopment on-going, but not finished yet. Meanwhile an important exhibition about the death of free salmon fishing on the Tweed, *A Wake for the Salmon*, July 11-Sept 15.

BRADFORD
 Cliffe Castle Museum, Keighley. 0274 758231. **CI** Mon. **★** **Op** **★** Opening June 26. Event of the season for many. Birthplace of Thomas Bewick where he lived until his death 160 years ago. Now restored by Frank Atkinson, creator of Beamish, assisted by providence — an engraving by Bewick's brother found last October showing the exact layout and measurements of the living room.

DURHAM
 Light Infantry Museum, Aykley Heads. 0635 42214. **CI** Mon. **★** **Op** **★** New medals gallery opening Sept 11, including seven, possibly eight, of the 11 VCs the regiment has won.

HARTLEPOOL
 Gray Art Gallery and Museum, Clarence Rd. 0429 266522. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** New curator Rachel Wilkins hopes to have a new archaeology gallery opening this summer, sociology next year.

HAWORTH
 Brown Parsonage Museum, Keighley. 0535 42323. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Diamond Jubilee year, actually falls on Aug 4 when there's a special party for all who have given objects over the year. Exhibition to celebrate called *Sixty Treasures* lasts all season.

HULL
 Ferens Art Gallery, Queen Victoria Sq. 0482 222750. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Dutch and Flemish Old Master Drawings, until July 17, 3½ centuries of exquisite art from the University of Leiden's print room on tour (previously at Glasgow and York).

Transport and Archaeology Museum
 High Street. 0482 222737. **Op** daily. **★** **Op** **★** Great excitement this time over the 2,300-year-old Haselholme

National Museum of Film and Photography
 Prince's View. 0274 727488. **CI** Mon. **★** **Op** **★** Celebrates its fifth birthday on July 12 by opening Crown and Camera (until Nov 13), last year's Queen's Gallery exhibition edelweiss of the private and public royal images; and June 28-Sept 2 it is the first British venue for the New York retrospective of royal photographer Norman Parkinson's work. Likely contender for Museum of the Year award to be made later this month.

CHERRYBURN
 Mickley, Stocksfield, Northumberland. 0661 843276. **CI** Mon. **★** **Op** **★** Opening June 26. Event of the season for many. Birthplace of Thomas Bewick where he lived until his death 160 years ago. Now restored by Frank Atkinson, creator of Beamish, assisted by providence — an engraving by Bewick's brother found last October showing the exact layout and measurements of the living room.

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Underneath the arches: enjoying the permanent show at the Manchester Museum of Science and Industry, with its display of the underground world of sewerage

الأسفل

6 walk fo

Two children...
 25 each way

June 25-July 1, 1988

SATURDAY

NICK ROGERS



Spheres of influence: Fred Matravets in full flight; the Huish Champflower village ground, perched on its beautifully manicured mound, is the setting for the annual match between the Matravets and Buckingham clans

A game for all the family

Have scandalous cricket headlines soured the village game?
William Greaves sought out a family match *par excellence*

The buzz of expectation, a phrase much beloved of cricket commentators before the opening ball of a Test match, was notably absent as the crowd assembled around the Huish Champflower village ground, perched majestically on its own beautifully manicured mound in the midst of Somerset's Brendon Hills. The stage was set, the scene was idyllic, but everyone was far too busy for any such aimless pre-match excitement.

Marge was organizing the raffle. Elsie was rounding up the tea cups for later. 82-year-old Christopher Matravets and his wife Dora were extricating their chairs from the car boot. Mary Elworthy, Somerset County Cricket Club's only female committee member, was opening her score book, and if there was any space for speculation at all it mostly surrounded the likely arrival time of the Matravets' third son, Fred, who would be bowling the second over up the hill. "He'll still be in the Badger's Holt yet awhile, getting

his last pint in," said someone who knew about these things. Yet there was no doubting the importance of the occasion. This was the annual game between the Buckingham and the Matravets, a gladiatorial conflict involving 22 players and just two surnames, an encounter to darken the wildest nightmares of any of those word-perfect magicians of the BBC ball-by-ball commentary team, a rustic confrontation which no one in the scores of villages between Taunton and Exmoor refers to as anything other than the Family Match.

It was five years ago that Eric Coombes, cricket reporter for the *Somerset County Gazette*, conceived the notion of pitting the two sets of brothers and immediate relatives against each other for a cup, presented by his newspaper. In so doing, he proved that the stars of the professional scene, who have been variously accused of conduct unbecoming in Pakistani umpiring disputes and English hotel bedrooms, are probably guilty of little more than being

taken too seriously. At grass roots level, where the spectators and the players share the same tea, the game is as eccentric, as keenly contested, as sane, as decent, as witty and as peculiarly English as ever.

Of the seven Buckingham brothers, five play every week for Huish Champflower's village side. With the help of an uncle, a couple of cousins and a nephew, all bearing the same surname with pride, they were set to do battle.

Old Christopher Matravets, father of the Matravets clan of one sister and nine brothers, found it difficult to disguise his contempt for the opposition. "We don't have need of cousins and nephews and far-flung folk like that," he said. "If they're not Dora's and my sons then they're our grand-children and that's that."

With 11 Buckingham men lining up to bat against the 11 Matravets, it was small wonder that Mary Elworthy was concentrating hard in the scorebook. "It doesn't help with Derek Matravets calling himself Bob and Jimmy Matravets' real name being David," she said. But then, as a committee member of Huish Champflower, the Somerset League, the Taunton Area League, the county side and the Somerset supporters, she was probably the only person with enough local knowledge to handle this improbable scoring job in the first place.

David Buckingham, who happens to call himself Bill, opened the batting with Stephen, known to all as Whacker, with cousin Terry coming in at number three. Which displayed a further difference between real rural cricket and the distilled version being played simultaneously between England and the West Indies in the more charged arena of Lord's.

"That's why we don't toss up to see who bats first," said John, at 40 the eldest of the seven Buckingham brothers. "Terry's got to bat early on, you see, so he can go off to get his milking done and get back to do his fielding after tea."

"Someone's got to do it," said Terry, apologetically. "Besides — they're calving just now."

After them in the batting order came Philip Buckingham (brother), Brian Buckingham (cousin), brothers Richard (known as Tich), Alan, Nigel and John Buckingham, Terry's son Martin Buckingham and the brothers' uncle, Ron Buckingham.

Although Philip Buckingham has had coaching both at Lord's and at Somerset's County Ground, and Bill has been told that if he went to play for Taunton he would probably get into Somerset's second XI, village cricket is the family's first love, and Huish Champflower its allegiance.

"It's our life here, and if any of us are good enough to be considered for the county, they shouldn't question that ability just because we play for a village side," Bill said. "Dad's buried at Huish, and he always wanted us to play here. Most nights during the summer I go up to cut and roll the pitch for a couple of hours after work, while

jobs, so I'm certainly not complaining."

All of which tends to mystify Eddie Matravets, lorry-driving seventh son of the Matravets dynasty. "All of us lot are married and we've got 27 children between us," he said. "Maybe the Bridge town women are just more tolerant than the Huish lot."

Wherever the boys got their cricketing obsession from, it certainly wasn't from their father. "No time for anything like that in my young days," said Christopher Matravets. His reminiscences were rudely interrupted when a ball, handsomely driven for four by Philip Buckingham, bounced off his wife's shin and struck him on the flat cap which was pulled down over his ears — apparently for just such an emergency. "Good hitting, Phil," someone shouted from the pavilion. "You got both

of 'em in one!" The game paused for a minute or two to allow the laughter to fall away.

By teatime, things seemed to be slipping away from the Matravets, defending the cup which they won last year for the first time. The Buckingham had piled up a formidable 263 in 40 overs.

The Matravets had an additional cause of concern. Bob was down to open the batting but there was, apparently, some doubt whether he should have been allowed to do so at all. "After what he got up to last night, he should have been facing an MCC disciplinary committee this morning," Eddie said. No one took the allegation seriously.

Bob pushed the third ball of the Matravets innings for a quick single, however, and John, directing the reply from the boundary, seemed happy enough with the pace. "Well hit, lad," he called — "just 263 more and we've got 'em."

But by the time Bob had been

bowled for a swashbuckling 52, things were looking healthier at 67 for 2. "The gentleman from *The Times* is trying to find a word to describe your innings," said someone. "Rustic?" suggested Bob. "Rustic, more like," thought Cliff. And soon John was going out to join Fred at the wicket.

Fred's courageous innings eventually over, he went out to umpire. "Howzaat!" demanded Tich Buckingham. It was blatantly low, but the Matravets had not yet got enough runs on the board and Fred dismissed the appeal with contempt. Would there be a repeat of the notorious Shakoor Rana-Mike Gatting affair? There would not. "Sun in your eyes, Fred, was it?" suggested skipper Bill Buckingham, amid general merriment.

A brave Matravets assault on the improbable ended with 201 for 8 and a Buckingham victory by 62 runs. "Win or lose, it doesn't make a ha'porth of difference," said Christopher Matravets from his deckchair. But it was hard to find anyone to agree with him.

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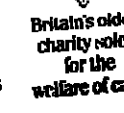
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71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

Family fortunes: the team photo and the scorebook tell the tale

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TRAVEL 2

Discoveries in a new found land

In Canada the east coast betokens a landscape of wind-clawed, junk-free horizons, where icebergs and whales are everyday entertainments, and tourists a rarity. Accompanied by fishy hitch-hikers, Michael Watkins took all the sights on board

Sunday was gospel day in Newfoundland. Each radio button I punched spilled out evangelical candour, guaranteeing salvation to the repentant, brimstone to the sinner. "My Lord is a bright shining light," wailed a celestial choir sponsored by a brand of peanut butter unfamiliar to me. "Add your name to the Book of Life," I was urged. "Do it now." Which was not convenient at that moment because I had both hands on the steering wheel of the hired car heading along the Trans Canada Highway towards Isle aux Morts. The car was American, it was like driving a bedroom.

At Stephenville I picked up a hitch-hiker who asked where I was going. I said I'd thought of Isle aux Morts, but that anywhere else would do just as well. He seemed to think better of me for that, saying that I could drop him at Jerry's Nose, a fishing village on the Port au Port Peninsula. He told me he had been playing drums in a Toronto club all winter while most of his neighbours drew social security; the sea freezes, he said, so there is no fishing. At least he talked; most of these west coast people were so sparing with words they'd be happiest communicating by semaphore.

Jerry's Nose was no different from most Newfoundland communities: a scattered collection of white painted weather-boarded houses, their front doors three or four feet off the ground to clear the snow, net curtains at the windows, patchy gardens as breeding grounds for plastic pink flamingoes, gnomes and cut-outs of Tweedie Pie. Wind clawed smoke from chimneys, snow still smeared hill slopes; and this the last week of June. There was a callous touch, "frivolity" a word unknown to local vocabulary. Potato crisps and the petrol engine had arrived, not much else. If you wanted to buy something really frivolous, like a hammer or a carpet sweeper, you'd need to travel miles and miles; heaven knows where you would go for a party frock or bedroom slippers.

No, you'd be better off learning how to tie a bowline than a bow-tie; skinning-a-fowl skills would be more in demand than mixing a dry martini. To the best of my knowledge, Proust and Jane Austen are not banned; it's just that you'd find it more sustaining learning to bait a fish-hook or light a fire without matches. Fashion-wise, I'd say that Newfoundland was about as sartorially conscious as Hull in 1932.

I enjoyed the fact that, so far as tourism was concerned, Newfoundland was in the Stone Age. I admired the junk-free landscape, innocent of neon and bill-boards promoting indigestible food and fizzy beverages. The only road signs warned drivers of wild moose. Newspapers and radio networks concentrated on the eternal verities: Russian tanks might be grinding towards the seat of government in Ottawa, but the first item on VOCM news from St



BONAVISTA: History abounds

TRAVEL NOTES

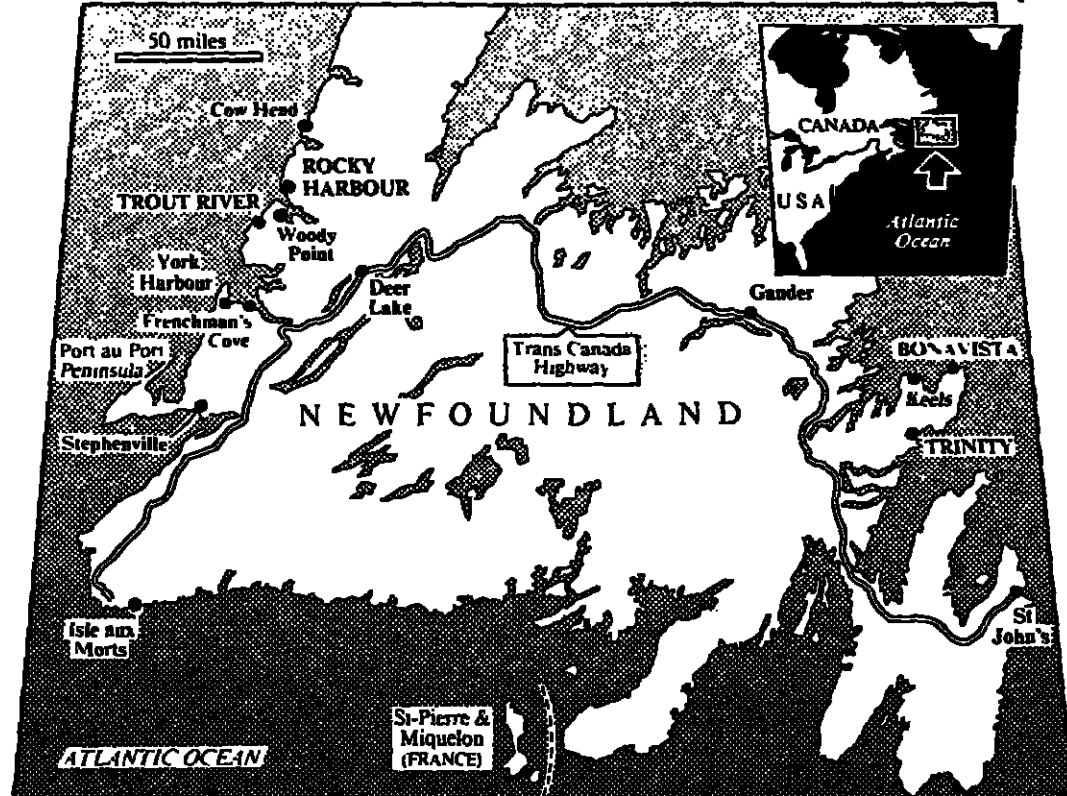
I flew to London Heathrow to St John's with Air Canada (01-759 2636). Fares from £318 return. First class, until August is £2,040 return. Flights were full both ways, so I advise booking and confirming well in advance. Internal flights St John's to Deer Lake by Air Nova £80. There are Holiday Inns at St John's, Gander, Clarenville, Corner Brook, double room approximately £46 a night. Motel-cabin accommodation about half that amount. Two can dine for £20. My hire-car came from Tilden's; total charge for 10 days was £276. The journey described was 2,916kms. Further information from Newfoundland & Labrador Department of Tourism, Box 4750, St John's, Newfoundland.

John's was about a five-year-old who had become separated from his mother in a shopping precinct. My passenger told me to forget Isle aux Morts. Go north, he'd said, to Frenchman's Cove, York Harbour, Woody Point, Trout River — stay the night at Rocky Harbour. So I did. I passed great lakes, mountains, moors, fir forests and fields. Few people, very few: four to every square mile was the official figure. What do they do, these elected few? Winter is long and violent, summer a fleeting myth. Snow falls in October, clearing the following May or June. Temperatures plummet to 40 degrees below zero. The sea freezes. So what do you do, I eventually asked Frances Sweeting, lady librarian at Bonavista. "We chop wood and wait."

I made the Ocean View Motel at Rocky Harbour by 6pm. If they had not had a vacancy I'd have slept in the car, there was nothing



BONAVISTA BAY: a humpback whale gives a flick of its tail — the sight is elusive but exciting



ROCKY HARBOUR: the shops sell few luxuries while, right, fishing is Newfoundland's big industry



TRINITY: St Paul's church in Newfoundland's prettiest settlement



TROUT RIVER: shells and lobster pots abound on the drive north



EAST COAST: watching icebergs as big as the Ritz float by

else before the Arctic Circle. There was an incredible sunset, and lobster for dinner. I asked the waiter for a wine list. "There's the Hemlock '86," he offered. "Or the Hemlock '86," I said that the Hemlock '86 was reputedly a precocious little wine, did they sell much? "But a couple of bottles a week," he exaggerated wildly.

Heading north was by that time getting in my blood. So was collecting hitch-hikers. This one smelled fishy, he reeked of cod. High and laconic, he was returning to the fish-factory at Port au Choix. Passing Cow Head ("Christ died for the Ungodly," read the community slogan), I ventured that the weather seemed chilly for mid-summer. "We get two-three sunny days in a row sometimes," he said. There used to be Eskimos as Port au Choix; today there's the fish-factory, three stores and a take-away from which "anyone using foul language will be banned

indefinitely". I took away a bacon and mayonnaise sandwich built like Hadrian's Wall and returned to Rocky Harbour the way I'd come. In Newfoundland there's a straight road to where you're going and a straight road back, no messing.

I flew back east then, from Deer Lake to St John's, where they gave me keys for another car so that I could set off on the Gander Loop, ostensibly to spot whales and icebergs. I saw neither. There were a few sheep; but this somehow was a pale substitute for whales and icebergs and I felt let down.

Miraculously, everything fell into place next day as I followed the trail to Bonavista Peninsula. Miraculously, the sun made its debut for the year. Miraculously, I took aboard a hitcher who didn't whiff of fish. On impulse I turned off the main drag, finding myself overlooking Blackhead Bay at Keels. Nothing moved except net

curtains jiggling at windows. There were 30 or so small houses, a wooden church and an icy draught non-stop from the North Pole.

Bonavista, by comparison, seemed as go-ahead as Manhattan. There was no hotel, but it sported a take-away and a liquor store. There was a memorial to men of the Newfoundland Regiment who never did make it back from the Somme and behind the memorial the library where I met Frances Sweeting, who told me that she'd circulated heaps of books before the benediction of cable TV. From her records we worked out that on average the population reads half a book a year nowadays.

Bonavista lighthouse was striped red and white, like a stick of candy. A college girl doing a vac job gave me the guided tour, explaining what it was like to be a lighthouse keeper a hundred years ago. What's it like today, I asked, how do you pass the winter? "We

skidoo," she said. "It's like a motor-bike on skis, we race over the ice. We watch whales — look, there are two out there now."

Nothing. An entire ocean, that's all. Then I saw their huge, black, lazy freedom as they rolled and dived. It was only a glimpse. I saw two whales for a second, that's all; but it made me think of the men who kill whales and of those who defend them. It seemed to me that we need the whales, we need the assurance of their immense liberty; men who destroy whales are destroying themselves and men who protect whales are defending their own future.

I should have left Newfoundland on that note; but I didn't. I spent three days in St John's. Sir Humphrey Gilbert claimed England's first colony for his Sovereign Lady when he stepped ashore at St John's in 1583. History abounded.

Even so, it won't be St John's that I shall remember. What will stick in my mind is an early morning on Bonavista Peninsula. I'd slept uncomfortably in a road-side cabin and couldn't wait to get away. Twenty miles on I pulled into English Harbour. Out to sea, but close enough to seem malevolent, stood an iceberg as big as the Ritz.

Driving on to Trinity, the prettiest settlement in 10 days' travel, gave no refuge from the iceberg. It seemed almost purposeful, charged with vindictiveness, so that I thought of Ahab's Moby Dick, the white whale that personified the mystery of creation. It was the first iceberg I'd ever seen. It mesmerized me. In Trinity I came across a solitary figure tinkering with his pick-up. "Seen that iceberg?" I asked. "It's been around," he replied. "It'll melt soon." Having solved the riddle of creation, he bent again to his tinkering.

Phantom flights

TRAVEL NEWS

The ultimate package for the-atre goers will be offered by Goodwood Travel next winter, with a return flight to New York on Concorde and a top price ticket for The Phantom of the Opera on Broadway. There will be four departures from London between December and February and the £2,095 price also includes two nights at the five-star Marriott Marquis Hotel on Broadway and a helicopter sightseeing tour of Manhattan. Information on 0227-763336.

Off to Canada

People seeking last minute holidays this summer, are tending to go further afield, according to Thomas Cook. The most popular choice for long haul holidays is Canada, with a three-fold increase in bookings compared with this time last year, while Egypt is also in demand and St Lucia has replaced Barbados as the Caribbean favourite.

The top five destinations in the long haul league table are Canada, Egypt, Thailand, The Seychelles and St Lucia.

Taking it easy

Five-day "stress therapy" breaks, aimed at overworked business executives, are being run at the Snowdonia National Park Health Lodge in the mountains near Bethesda. The treatment includes sauna, massage, exercise classes, mountain cycling and ad-



Just the ticket: Michael Crawford in Phantom of the Opera

ditive-free meals. It costs from £75 per day. A free extra is the Snowdonia mountain air which, says the Lodge's director, osteopath Joyce Griffiths, is "one of the most relaxing agents available". Information on 0248 600548.

British Airways will launch the first direct air service between the UK and Korea this autumn, coinciding with the Olympic Games in Seoul. The weekly flight will operate on a short cut route, starting on September 6, and the British Olympic team will be among the first passengers to use the service. Information: 01-897 4000.

Renoir returns

Six paintings produced on Guernsey by Pierre Renoir in 1893 will return to the island for the first time next month for a major exhibition sponsored by the State of Guernsey Tourist Board. The works are on loan from public and private collections in Europe and the United States and the exhibition, at the island's

Museum and Art Gallery in St Peter's Port, runs from July 9 to September 18. Information on 0481 26611.

To the proms

Short breaks in London, including a ticket to the promenade concerts, are being operated by London Travel Service during the concert season, which runs from July 22 to September 17. Prices start at £59 and also include two nights' hotel accommodation and return rail travel. Information on 01-730 5165.

Up-market Malta

Malta is to limit the building of budget-price hotels in an attempt to improve the island's tourism image. Visitor figures dropped sharply a few years ago after criticism of substandard accommodation and Malta's tourism minister, Dr Michael Refalo, says planning applications for hotels and restaurants with a three-star or lower rating will no longer be recommended.

Philip Ray

TRAVEL BOOKS

The Isle of Wight, in its own time warp off the south coast, is not everyone's idea of an island holiday but it does have a quiet charm. *Walking on the Isle of Wight*, by Patricia Sibley (Robert Hale, £5.95) is ideal for those planning an active holiday there. Sibley, a long-time resident, has compiled 50-odd walks (ranging from one mile to 55 miles) and she argues a persuasive case for walking on Wight rather than the mainland. The walks are closer together there, she says; there are good bus links for walkers whose legs falter; and there is no real "rough walking" (a pair of short wellingtons is generally sufficient). A concise history of the island is given in her introduction and each walk is accompanied by better-than-average notes. One small gripe: she cheats a bit by having a "Long-Distance Walks" section, and then saying that the 55-mile Wootton to Chale coastal path is detailed elsewhere in short stretches.

● The Visitor's Guide to the Italian Lakes, by Richard Sale (MPC, £7.95) is a straightforward travel guide to the region. Doubtless a useful volume for those who are touring the lakes, one eye on the guide book, the other on the attraction being described, this paperback is not much fun for the loungechair traveller. It does, however, contain adequate photographs and maps, guided tours to towns, suggested routes to take through the area, and abbreviated summaries of places of interest.

Jenny Tabakoff

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ARMADA EVENTS

The Spanish fleet sets sail again

Armada fever is sweeping Britain for the second time in 400 years.

Anne Whitehouse gives a selection of events being held over the next few months to celebrate the anniversary

The Spaniards are invading again — at least that's what you could be led to believe if the events of the next few months are anything to go by.

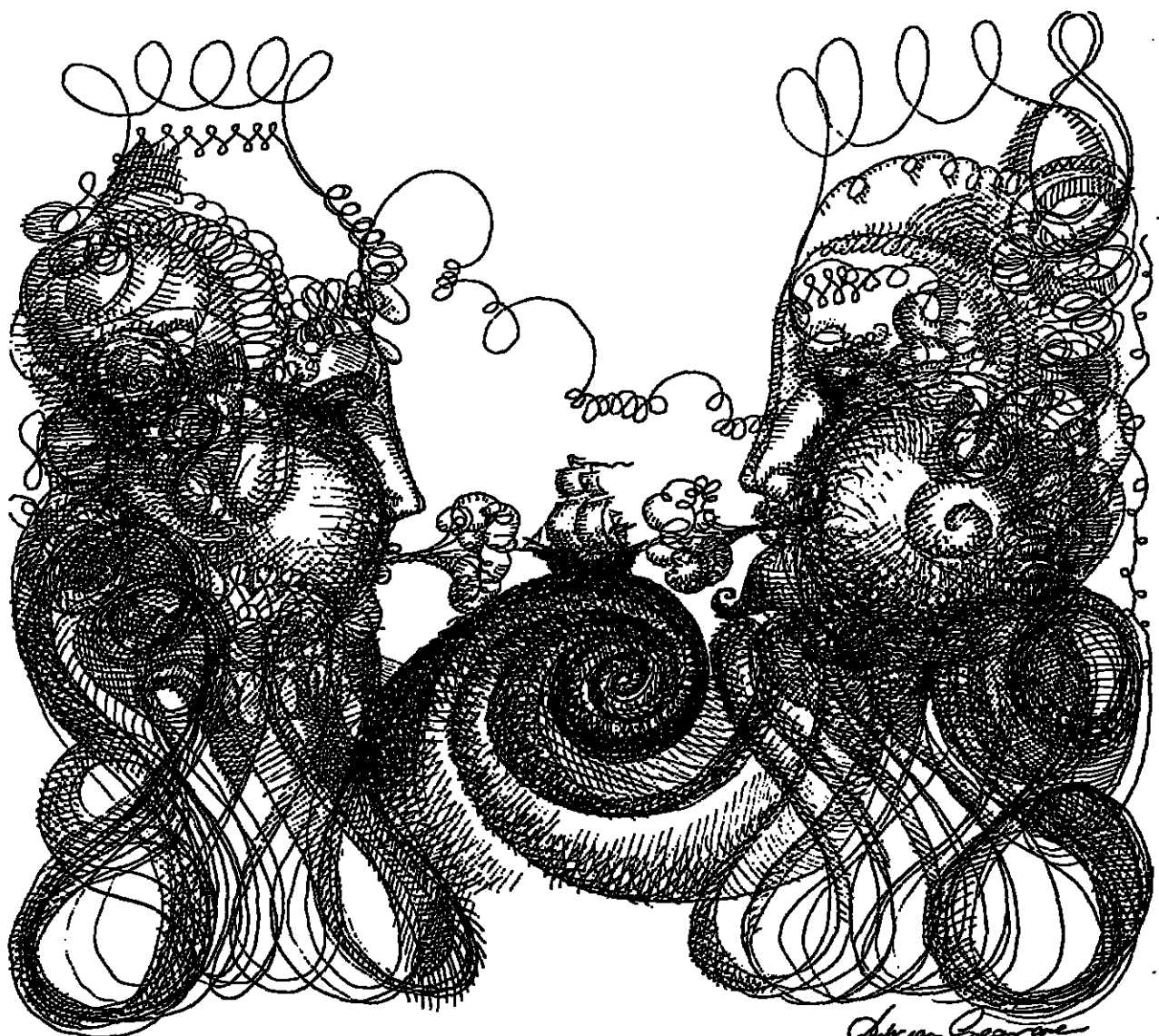
With a fleet of 100 yachts due to set sail from San Sebastian in a 400-mile race for these shores next month, huge guns being dragged along the south coast by uniformed militia with accompanying infantry, and a myriad re-enactments, battles and skirmishes, there is more ardour going into the repeat Armada performance 400 years on than into the original, which seems a mere dress rehearsal in comparison.

The whole thing is officially launched on July 19, with a chain of beacons stretching from the Lizard to Northumberland. But there are several tasters to whet your appetite before then. You will be able to experience the sights, sounds and smells of the Elizabethan age, with cities down to tiny hamlets all milking their Armada connections to capitalize on the event.

Pike and gunnery displays,

firing of salutes by the armed services, inspections of modern day Armadas, and even ceremonial wreath-layings have been planned. Full scale replicas of galleons in battle and of grim dungeons where the Spanish Inquisition interrogated and tortured prisoners contrast with the glamour of Elizabethan banquets and costumes balls, with whole spit pigs and ox roasts.

On the lighter side, there are Armada tea dances, cake bakes and rum shanty sessions; treasure trails and "It's a Knockout" competitions; and Drake cruises and boules tournaments. For those in search of culture, there are recitals of English and Spanish music on period instruments from the courts of Elizabeth I and Philip II, with their strolling minstrels, and Historical Association conferences. For those with a taste for the more frivolous, the Elizabethan fashion parades with accompanying town criers and Francis Drake look-alike competitions are bound to appeal.



JUNE

INVASION 1588: English Heritage actors travel from Penderis to Walmer with guns and costumed gun crew, uniformed militia, infantry and camp followers. Period musicians and dancers. Opportunity for public to load cannon, handle pike. From June 25: Venues: Kenilworth Castle, Warwickshire, Penderis and restormel, Cornwall; Totnes Castle, Devon; Carisbrooke Castle, Isle of Wight; Ravensey Castle, East Sussex; Dover Castle, Deal Castle and Walmer Castle, Kent. Details: English Heritage, 15 Great Marlborough St, London W1 (01-734 6010).

ARMADA FLOWER FESTIVAL: Also traditional crafts fair. June 25-27: Bowden House, Totnes, Devon.

JULY

PLYMOUTH ARMADA CELEBRATIONS: Month of special events launched with opening ceremony on the Hoe

Promenade. July 1: In Plymouth and Tavistock. **ARMADA:** Premiere of dramatic oratorio commissioned by Plymouth Philharmonic choir, composed and conducted by Derek Bourgeois. July 2: Guildhall, Plymouth.

DRAKE NAVAL BASE ARMADA FAIR: Displays by Devonport Field Gun Crew. July 2: HMS Drake, Saltash Rd, Devonport, Plymouth (0752 555525), 11am-5.30pm.

IT'S AN ARMADA KNOCKOUT: Elizabethan Banquet at Boringdon Hall; Armada Tea Dance in Armada Centre; Drake lecture at Mayflower Post House; commemorative service at St Andrew's Church; and Elizabethan barbecue at Holiday Inn. July 3: (also on July 10, 17 and 24). Plymouth.

HASLEMERE FESTIVAL: Two-day programme of English and Spanish music on instruments of Armada period begins. July 4: Haslemere Hall, Haslemere, Surrey (0428 2181).

TREADING THE BILLOWS: Frascati Quartet look at

humour and heroism of naval life from Drake to Atlantic Charter. July 4: Plymouth Armada Centre, 8.30pm.

COMBINED SERVICES SPECTACULAR: Start of week of events by armed services, with firing of salute off the Hoe, air displays, and vessels open to the public. Also climbing tower and para harness jumps to try. Ends with rum shanty session. (Sat, 8pm). From July 5: Plymouth.

NATIONAL PATCHWORK QUILT COMPETITION: Special category on quilts depicting Elizabethan England and Armada. July 7-10: Audley End House, Essex.

ARMADA CONCERT: Music and dance from Spanish and English composers of period. July 7: Prysten House, Plymouth.

ARMADA PAGEANT: In traditional titiyat. July 7: Dartington Hall.

WAITING FOR THE ARMADA: Music from courts of Philip II and Elizabeth I. Part of City of London Festival. 29, including wine. July 8: Chapel of St Peter in

Vincula, Tower of London, EC3. Box Office, St Paul's Churchyard, London EC4 (01-236 5086/2081).

ARMADA WEEK AND BOULES TOURNAMENTS: July 9-16: Salcombe.

MARY STUART, ELIZABETH TUDOR AND PHILIP OF SPAIN: Readings to commemorate Armada, with Barbara Jefford, Gwen Watford, James Cairncross and John Westbrook. Part of Warwick Arts Festival. July 10: Lord Leycester Hospital (0926 410129), 8pm.

BEATING RETREAT: Massed bands of Royal Marines beat retreat on Hoe Promenade. July 12: Plymouth.

ROYAL TOURNAMENT: Grand finale is re-enactment of Armada defeat, with bands, galleons, cannon and fireworks. Until July 30th. Tickets from £4.50. July 13: Earls Court, Warwick Road, London SW5 (01-373 8141).

ARMADA CAKE BAKE: To aid Church of England Children's Society. July 14: Plymouth City Centre. **HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION**

CONFERENCE: Lectures on Armada and Elizabethan foreign policy, visits to Cotefele House and Buckland Abbey. July 15-17: College of St Mark and St John, Plymouth. Details: Adrian Ailes, 59a Kennington Park Rd, London SE11 (01-735 3801).

WEST WITTERING ARMADA CELEBRATIONS: West Wittering Players perform re-enactment of period, morris dancing, barbecue and fireworks. July 15-19: West Wittering.

ARMADA CUP RACE: 100 yachts leave San Sebastian in 400 mile race to Plymouth (first arrivals expected following Wed), followed by Port of Plymouth Armada Regatta (July 23-24). July 18: San Sebastian.

ARMADA 400th ANNIVERSARY: Elizabethan events in square, celebration beacons on ramparts and bonfires on hill. July 16-18: Bonwick on Tweed, Northumberland (0289 306332).

ELIZABETHAN EXTRAVAGANZA: Madrigals, minstrels, jesters, jugglers,

dancers, and mimmers in period dress. July 17: The Batts, River Swale, Richmond, North Yorkshire (0748 5281).

ARMADA TREASURE TRAIL: Also Marisa Robles concert. July 17: Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

FIRE OVER ENGLAND: Armada 88 is launched nationally, with lighting of more than 40 bonfires, forming chain from Cornwall to Northumberland, starting with the Lizard, where the Armada was first sighted. July 19: St Michael's Mount, Corne Giant, Melbury Beacon, The Needles, Tenby Down, White Horse Hill, Alderly Edge, Lindisfarne and Ravenscar.

SON ET LUMIERE: Presentation by musicians and actors at Drake's birthplace, with staff in period costume. Until July 21st: Tavistock Town Council, Drake Rd, Tavistock (0822 613529).

HASLEMERE FESTIVAL: 64th Festival includes Dance Royale in dances from courts of Elizabeth I and Philip II. July 19-22: Haslemere Hall, Haslemere, Surrey (0428 2161).

SEPTEMBER

SPANISH ARMADA: Celebration of the music of England and Spain to mark 400th anniversary. Sept 16-18: Part of York Festival. Information: Ticket World, 6 Patrick Pool, Church St, York YO1 2BB (0904 644194).

ARMADA IN YORKSHIRE: Drama performed by Young National Trust Theatre acting as 16th-century shipwrights, sailors and spies. Sept 14-23: Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal, YNTT, 8 Church St, Accrington, Wiltshire (024 755588).

NOVEMBER

ARMADA BALL: £25 ticket includes supper, dancing and fireworks. Nov 5: Montacute, National Trust property in Somerset. National Trust Wessex Regional Office, Stourton, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 9OD.

LONG-RUNNING

ARMADA 1588-1988: 16 galleries of exhibits showing the battle and life at sea, and the aftermath of the campaign. Replica of 16th-century ship, art works, maps, charts, manuscripts, jewellery, armour and weaponry, including material from wrecks. To Sept 4: National Maritime Museum, Greenwich (01-858 4422).

Oct 12-Jan 8, 1989: Ulster Museum, Botanic Gardens, Belfast. **ARMADA 1588:** Includes reconstruction of deck of English galleon in battle. £1.50 adults, 75p children. To Oct 2: Tibury Fort, Essex (0375 858488).

ARMADA AHOY! New permanent exhibition featuring English militia fighting off Spanish Armada. Penderis Castle, Cornwall.

BUCKLAND ABBEY: Home of Sir Francis Drake opens in July. Display of Drake's personal relics, including his seal, sword and drum. From July: Buckland Abbey, Yelverton, Devon (0822 854333).

THE ARMADA EXPERIENCE: Elizabethan seafaring and Heritage Centre opens in July, retelling Devon's role in defeat of Armada. Vaulted dungeons where Spanish Inquisition interrogated and tortured English sailors. Recreation of old Elizabethan town. July 4: New Street, The Barbican, Plymouth (0752 682225).

For details of Plymouth events, contact Tourist Information Centre, Civic Centre, Royale Parade, Plymouth (0752 264849/264851), or 12, The Barbican, Plymouth.

Armada 400 Office, St Andrews Court, 12 St Andrews St, Plymouth (0752 674301).

AUGUST

GREAT ARMADA PAGEANT: Re-enactment of Elizabeth I's sailing by barge from Tower Pier to Tibury to review her troops, using Tudor barge built for the film *A Man for All Seasons*, followed by pageants, celebrations and skirmishes. (0375 858488) Aug 6-7: Details from Box Office, Thurrock Armada, 5 Officers Quarters, Tibury Fort, Essex.

ARMADA SUMMER: Lord Sumb's household of 1588 in residence, recreated by history re-enactment workshop. Aug 13-14: Gainsborough Old Hall, Lincolnshire.

DARTMOUTH ROYAL REGATTA: Armada theme and Tudor fete, with fireworks displays. Aug 25-27: Dartmouth.

GARDENING

Stately gardens at a stately home

Hatfield House, built by Robert Cecil between 1607 and 1611, is arguably a fine example of Jacobean architecture. But the forbidding north-facing entrance, to which the main drive now leads, makes me think of the darker side of life in that period of history. The gardens, by contrast, are open and welcoming, full of scent and colour inside a defining frame of terraces and parterres.

They have passed through many incarnations but the last hundred years have seen a restoration to a 17th-century scheme, developed with ingenuity by the present Marchioness of Salisbury. The formality of terrace and parterre complements the house but the planting has a flowingness and elegance which owes much to our own times. Usually visitors can see either the east or west gardens but during this weekend's Hatfield Festival of Gardening all the gardens will be open to the

Hatfield House's gardens, open this weekend, have a noble history, writes Francesca Greenoak

public with a number of other attractions.

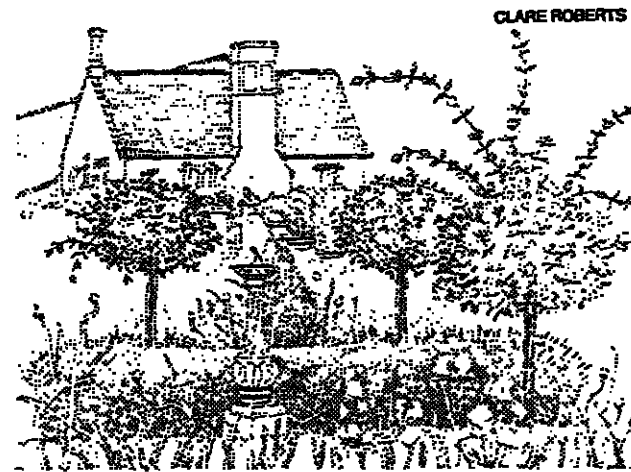
On the wide south facing avenue, in front of the beautiful Inigo Jones facade, a marquee will house 27 specialist nurseries and gardeners, including Rougham Hall, Paradise Nursery and specialists in day lilies, house plant orchids and geraniums. Close by, there will be exhibitions of pots, garden furniture and other garden sundries, as well as garden lectures and question sessions.

Of special interest will be the display of materials relating to the Tradescants from the Museum of Garden History, of which Lady Salisbury

is president (she designed its churchyard garden at Lambeth). The Tradescant father and son, so closely associated with the gardens at Hatfield, are buried there.

The earliest gardens, made in the late 15th century for the old palace at Hatfield, on the west side, were swept away when the new house was built. Robert Cecil, the first Earl of Salisbury, sent the elder John Tradescant to Europe to bring back new plants to furnish a suitably grand and rare garden, made even more elaborate a few years later by the Huguenot designer Salomon de Caus. The younger Tradescant went to Virginia for a similar purpose, and many of the plants they nurtured, such as the double anemone, *Phillyrea angustifolia*, and *Tradescantia virginiana*, bloomed for the first time in Britain at Hatfield.

The old medieval palace was not pulled down, but sur-



vives at a little distance from the Jacobean house. In the sheltered sunken area in front of it the Marchioness has made a Tudor garden with knots picked out in box, formally clipped, tiered, holly trees and plants of the period, including some rare historic bulbs. There is also the rare paucy Joseph Rock, which has doubled and filled petals, and some interesting double red campons as well as heartsease and named violas. A scented garden adjacent is edged by yew hedging with an old pleached lime walk as an outer boundary.

To the east of the house, the terrace looks down over formal gardens, informally plant-

ed. There are many roses, hollyhocks and mosses, and newer kinds such as Fruhlingsmorgen, and almost every wall of house and terrace is hung with honeysuckles, wisterias and climbing roses. Beyond these gardens lies the splendid yew maze, which looks about knee height but is in fact on a dropped level and nearly two metres tall. Behind the view stretches to the park, giving a complete scene with layers of contrasting zones. I particularly like the use of mop headed holly oaks to make an unusual formal avenue, and look forward to seeing the reconstruction of the mount.

One of the newest develop-

WEEKEND TIPS

• If you have naturalized primroses in the grass, you can mow if you get the blades high enough to pass over the leaves but leave snakehead fritillaries for a few weeks longer before mowing.

• Prune established hedges of beech, yew, pyracantha, weigela and lonicera nitida.

ments is the kitchen garden, with its small brick-edged raised beds, medieval in style, fruit arches, and a most unusual hedge formed from apple trees on dwarf stock.

In addition to the festival and the formal gardens, there is a semi-natural woodland garden with grassy paths leading in among some very fine trees, and azaleas and rhododendrons. About 2,000 acres of woodland is also open.

Festival of Gardening, Hatfield House, Hatfield, Hertfordshire. Today 10am-6pm; tomorrow 10am-6pm. Adult £2.60, child £1.10.

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LASER

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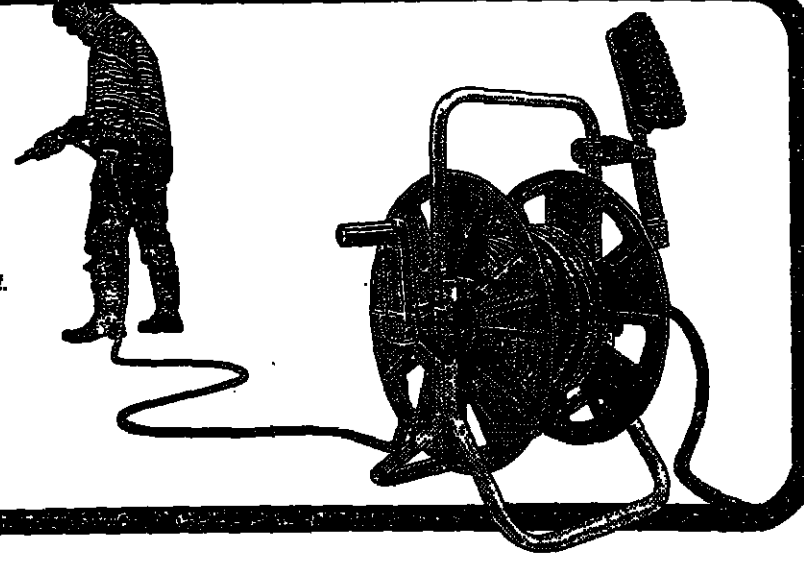
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THE TIMES COOK

Three hundred years after the Glorious Revolution, Frances Bissell finds fresh glories in a Dutch market

Dutch treats for dinner

I am ashamed to admit that until recently my knowledge of Dutch food has been limited to handsome but tasteless tomatoes, the ubiquitous red-skinned Edam cheese, and a different coloured capicum on the market every year. This year, it's orange. Last year it was white and the year before that, black.

The appearance of the black ones was exciting, conjuring up images of startling salads of multi-coloured roasted peppers. Sadly, their beauty was only skin deep, underneath the flesh was green. But at least the green, yellow and red versions retain their colour. What next? Lilac capicums, I can report.

But a few weeks ago, we paid a long overdue visit to Amsterdam and discovered some delicious foods which deserve to be seen more in Britain.

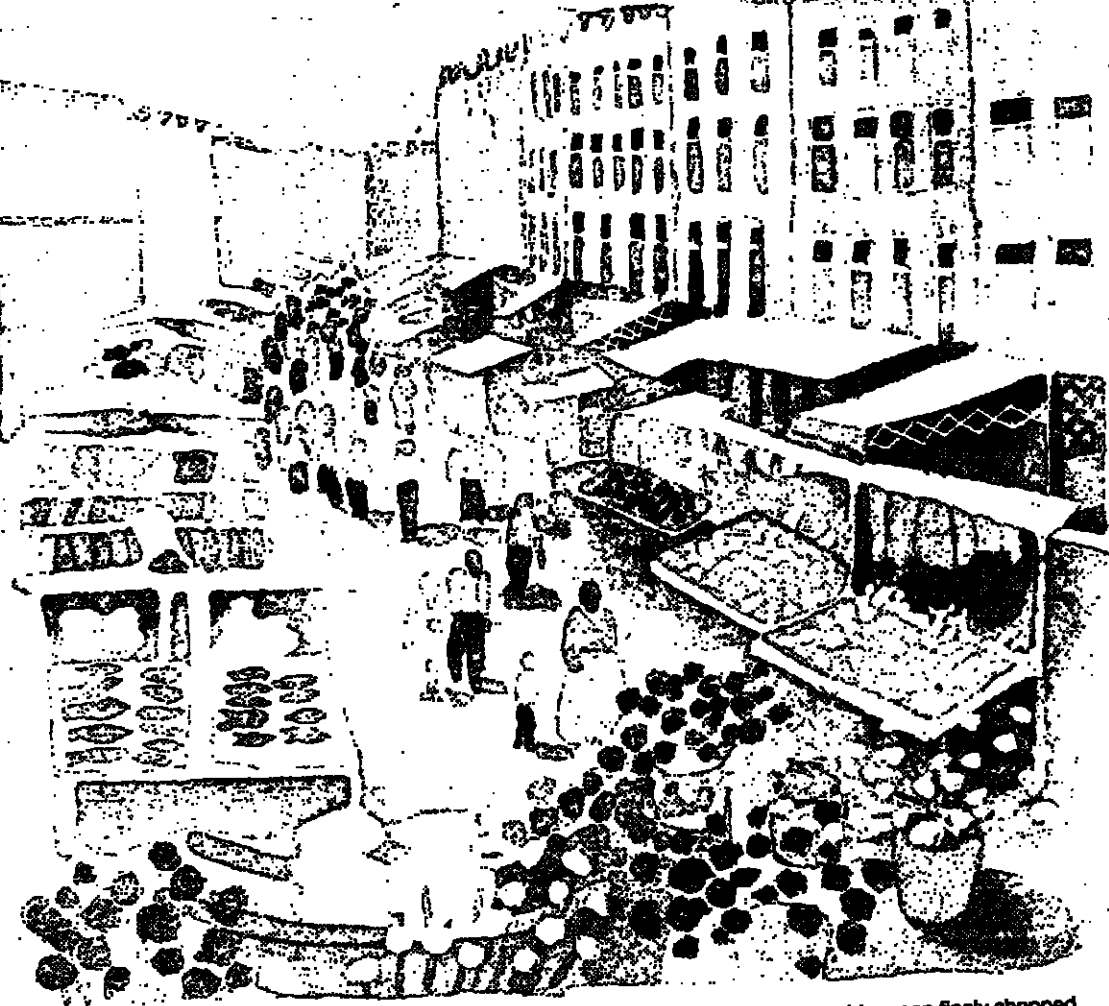
Amsterdam's open air market in Albert Kuypstrastraat was full of colour, even on a grey, wet Saturday: bright, fresh fish straight from the North Sea, bronze smoked eels and mackerel, pink peonies in full bloom, vegetables from the market gardens, imported ingredients for the Turkish and Indonesian restaurants to be found all over the city.

The longest queues were at the herring stall. It was the beginning of the "green" or new herring season, and at this time of year everyone eats at least three or four a day as a snack. Salted, raw herrings in large wooden barrels, straight from the fishing boats, were being bought up and swallowed just as fast as fishermen could split and fillet them. They were delicious, and we have brought the herring snack habit home with us. Matjes fillets in jars of brine are available in many delicatessens. Rinse them and serve with some pickles, a hard-boiled egg and some toast for an easy starter.

The wholesale market revealed other treasures. There were more than 20 kinds of Dutch cheeses, among them round sheep's and goat's cheeses and several mature farmhouse cheeses with a flavour almost matching that of parmesan. The vegetables were a wonderful sight: wild mushrooms; herbs such as salad burnet and purple basil; sea vegetables that I had never seen before (including one called lamb's ear); purple-podded peas and those glorious lilac capicums.

It has been 300 years since Prince William landed in Torbay at the beginning of the Glorious Revolution, but the Dutch influence in our kitchen goes back further than that. Dutch immigrants to Britain in the 15th and 16th centuries introduced market gardens. A century later, they introduced the crops which led to the improvement of home-grown meat. They brought in nutmeg and mace from their Spice Islands, not to mention their fiery juniper-flavoured distilled liquor, gin.

If you are in the Torbay area from



July 15 to 18, you will have the chance to taste some of the food I had in Amsterdam. Frans Winter, the chef at the Amsterdam Apollo, is bringing various Dutch delicacies to Torbay's Imperial Hotel. They include lamb from Texel, one of the Friesian Islands where the lambs mature on salt marshes and taste delicious, smoked eels from Vollen-dam, Dutch farmhouse cheese, herring and "jenever" to flavour his soups, sauces and pancakes and, without doubt, plenty of capicums.

One of the best and simplest ways of cooking these brilliant Dutch peppers is baked or roasted with a good splash of olive oil. This is, of course, only economical if you are planning to use the oven for other dishes. Otherwise grill the peppers. They are delicious as a hot vegetable, but even better just tepid or cold as a salad dish, into which you might also add a few rings of sweet onion and a little crushed garlic.

Roasted Peppers
(Serves 4-6)
1½ lbs/680g sweet peppers
4 to 6 tablespoons olive oil
freshly ground black pepper
½ teaspoon coarse sea salt

flat leaf parsley, coriander or chervil, a few sprigs for decoration, optional

Cut the peppers into half or quarter segments lengthways, depending on how bulbous they are. Remove the seeds, white pith and stalk. Brush a little olive oil over a flat oven-proof dish, and arrange the pieces of pepper in a single layer, skin side up. Pour on the rest of the olive oil, and bake for 30 to 40 minutes in a moderately hot oven, gas mark 5, 190C/375F. When ready to serve, season with pepper and salt and a squeeze of lemon or lime if you wish.

This is an economical, easy-to-cook meat dish similar to those found in many European and Eastern European kitchens. Beef, lamb or pork could replace the veal.

Veal birds
(Serves 4)
4-oz/110g slices of veal from the leg
¼ lb/110g minced veal
1 heaped tablespoon fresh breadcrumbs
1 size-4 egg, lightly beaten
1 tablespoon finely chopped parsley
1 tablespoon finely grated onion

1 tablespoon finely chopped almonds
1 teaspoon finely grated lemon zest
½ teaspoon sea salt
½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
½ teaspoon ground cloves
½ teaspoon ground nutmeg
1 oz/30g unsalted butter
1 tablespoon good dry white wine or vermouth
1 tablespoon water
3 or 4 parsley stalks

Roll the slices of meat between plastic film to flatten them. Or pound them if you have a very blunt, soft instrument. Mix the rest of the ingredients together except for the butter, liquid and parsley stalks. Spread the mixture on the four veal slices, and roll up and tie with string. Heat the butter in a casserole or frying pan, fry the rolls on all sides until just golden brown, add the liquid and parsley stalks, cover with a tight fitting lid, and cook on the gentlest heat for 45 minutes, or cook in the bottom half of the oven at gas mark 4 to 5, 350-375°F, 180-190°C. These are also very tasty when cold.

I developed the next recipe as a means of tempering some Dutch farmhouse cheese that was very mature and almost too powerful in flavour. It is a good way of using up odds and ends from your cheese-board. Alter the balance of grated and cottage cheese if your main cheese is fairly mild.

Farmhouse Cheese Pie
(Serves 6 to 8)
¾ lb/340g puff pastry
¼ oz/15g butter
6 oz/170g grated hard cheese
6 oz/170g plain cottage cheese
1 celery stalk, finely chopped
1 small onion, finely chopped
freshly ground black pepper
1 to 2 tablespoons freshly chopped herbs or watercress
beaten egg and milk to glaze

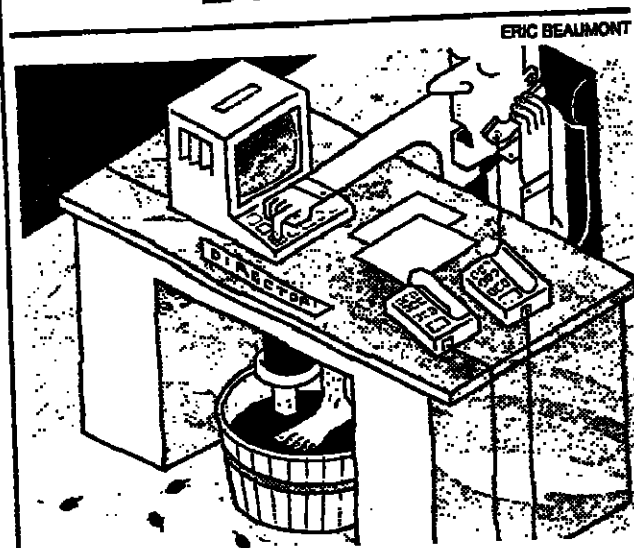
Divide the pastry in half, roll out each piece and cut it out round a dinner plate, a hexagonal plate makes a well-shaped pie. Place one piece of pastry on a greased and floured baking sheet. Gently cook the celery and onion in a little butter for five minutes or so and mix with the cottage cheese and grated cheese. Add the pepper and herbs, and pile on to the pastry on the baking sheet. Spread the mixture to within ½ inch/1cm of the edge, moisten the edge of the pastry with the beaten egg and milk. Give the pastry top another roll or two so that it will cover and meet the edges of the bottom pastry. Press the edges together, and cut them with a sharp knife, giving clean cuts and not dragging the pastry. In this way you will get a well risen finish. Make several slits in the top to let steam escape, decorate with the pastry trimmings and brush with the beaten egg and milk. Bake in the top half of a pre-heated oven, gas mark 5, 190C/375F for 25 to 30 minutes, moving it to a lower shelf if it shows signs of burning. Serve the pie warm.

Here is a cool, refreshing pudding based on a Dutch recipe that can be made the day before required. It is delicious served with soft summer berries or sliced peaches. You can also make it in individual moulds.

Lemon Buttermilk Jelly
(Serves 4)
4 sheets (¼ oz/15g) leaf gelatine
½ pint/70ml cold water
½ pint/140ml fresh lemon juice
6 oz/170g sugar
½ pint/260ml buttermilk

Soak the gelatine in water for five minutes. Then place it over a gentle heat, and stir until dissolved. Heat the lemon juice, melt the sugar in it, and stir in the dissolved gelatine. Mix well and add to the buttermilk. Blend thoroughly and pour the mixture into a wetted 1 pint/570ml mould. When almost cold, transfer to the refrigerator and chill until set.

DRINK



A family affair

Jane MacQuitty on the fruits of a remarkable Spanish wine dynasty

The road south from Barcelona to the Vilafranca del Penedès leads through urban sprawl to the hilly, vine-clad Catalan countryside of Penedès, Spain's second most important wine-producing region after Rioja. I had come to see the Torres family, whose Penedès wines are among the best the region produces.

Despite Spain's EEC status, few wine advances have been accomplished there recently. The Torres, however, are an exception. Their Penedès installations have grown enormously and last year Torres exported more than six million bottles, a record, to around 85 countries.

The statistics are impressive, so are the family and their wines. Don Miguel Torres, aged 79, still runs the firm and his wife Margarita visits Torres's eastern European markets. Their elder son, Juan Maria, manages the import division. Second son Miguel jun. is the oenologist and his wife, Waltraud, oversees the German market. Marimar, Don Miguel's daughter, runs the North American interests. Even by Catalan standards, the work ethic of the Torres family, wine farmers since the 17th century, is remarkable. Jaime Torres founded the firm in 1870, after making money in Cuba. His descendant, Don Miguel, saw his firm through the Spanish Civil War and after 1945, with his wife, established export markets.

If Don Miguel is seen as the marketing supreme of the family it is his son Miguel Junior, aged 47, who will be remembered as the outstanding winemaker. Sent by his father to train at Dijon in the 1960s, Miguel studied more recently at Montpellier. His early researches revolved around experimental plantings of French, and even German,

vines in Spanish soil. Today much of the family's 640 hectares of land is planted to these vines.

The next step came in the late Sixties when he introduced stainless steel fermenters and storage tanks, essential hot climate wine weaponry which Miguel jun. had first seen in California.

The third piece of the jigsaw, he says, concerns the delicate harmony between soil, climate and vine. With three distinct Penedès climates, ranging from a hot coastal strip to a cooler higher inland area, Torres is in a better position than most Spanish producers to achieve this fine balance.

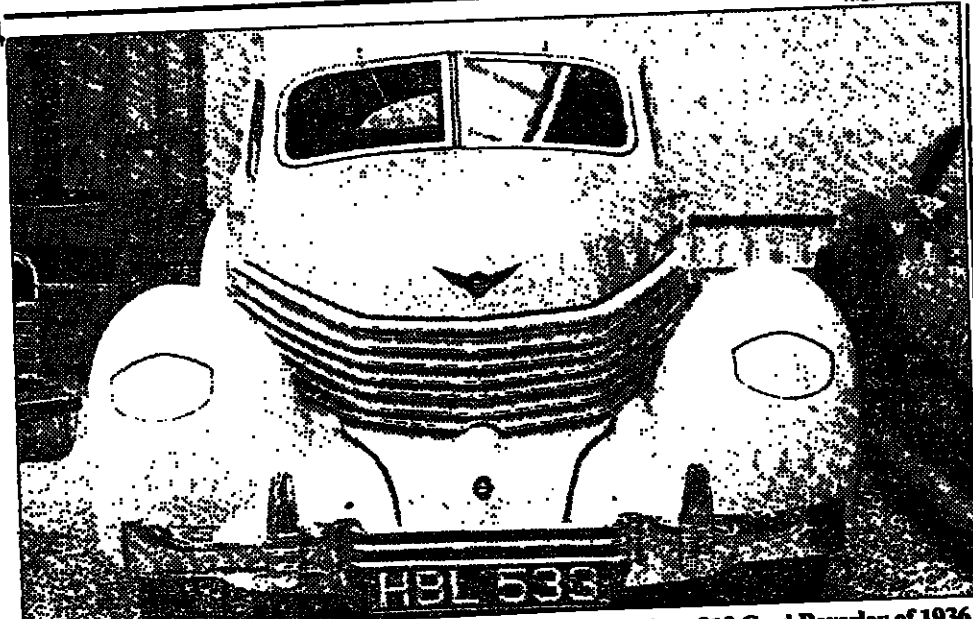
Miguel jun. also has a further 100 hectares of vines plus a winery at Corico in Chile whose wines are improving every year. Miguel is also involved with the family's 24 hectare plot in California's Sonoma Valley.

No doubt there will be many more Torres developments. In the meantime we can all enjoy the fruits of this hardworking family's labour: whether it be the young, fresh zesty charms of the '87 Vinya Sol (Asda £2.99, Laymont & Shaw, The Old Chapel, Millpool, Truro £3.50), the truly delicious oaky-citrusy style of the '86 Gran Vinya Sol Green Label (Peter Dominic £5.99, Laymont & Shaw £5.63); the herbaceous more traditional yet ultra-drinkable Spanish fruit of the red '85 Tres Torres (Peter Dominic £3.75, Laymont & Shaw £3.59); or their flagship wine, the Cabernet Sauvignon-based '82 Gran Coronas Black Label with its mature cedary scent and rich cedary-fruity palate (Laymont & Shaw £12.65).

Jane MacQuitty

OUT & ABOUT

NICK ROGERS



They don't make them like this any more: the audacious art deco 810 Cord Beverly of 1936

Heaven on wheels

I had never seen one of John De Lorean's gull-winged creations close to before. A very nice car, says John Haynes — just a pity he thought he could sell them by the gross. A pal of his in California had one and Haynes bought him a box of Brillo Pads for Christmas to shine up that stainless steel bodywork.

John Haynes, head of the publishing group that bears his name, is a man who loves motor cars. He has spent much of his life collecting them, and his spectacular acquisitions now form the nucleus of the Sparkford Motor Museum.

Set in glorious countryside almost in the shadow of Cadbury Hill, it is a kind of dream show room, agleam with lovingly polished coachwork. Here enthusiasts can wander and salivate over the sort of machines they no doubt drive on the uncluttered roads of heaven.

The range is extraordinary, incorporating relatively humble by-gone roadsters as well as the big, super-charged brutes. The oldest exhibit is an 1898 Royal Enfield Four-Car, a dog-cart with a saddle for the driver, set behind the passenger seat.

All the vehicles are in immaculate condition, and are driven regularly. The museum is a charitable trust, but

Vehicles to make any car lover drool are on display at a Somerset museum, writes Nigel Andrew

John Haynes has retained ownership of a couple of special favourites. One is an AC Cobra, that dangerously fast sports car which to Haynes is "the ultimate open two seater". He got his for four figures, whereas genuine Cobras now change hands for six.

His other favourite is very different, a 1930 Rolls-Royce Phantom II Sedan de Ville. This well-appointed sitting room on wheels will cruise at a room on wheels will cruise at a comfortable 70mph, at least in the evening and early morning, in the middle of the day she gets a bit temperamental.

A prize exhibit is the 1917 Haynes Light 12, with its far from light V12 engine. This beast has no front brakes: "It goes like crazy," says Haynes, "but it's a devil to stop." It was discovered in the 1970s in the jungle in Java, middle of the only one in the world.

In this museum you can admire the audacious art deco styling of the coffin-nosed 810

Cord Beverly, and snigger at the BMW Isotta, a glorified bubble car intended as competition for the Mini. Serious lust, on the other hand, will surely be stirred by the array of post-war sports cars.

Each of the nifty red numbers from the 1950s seems to demand a boulder behind the wheel, complete with check cap, cravat and natty driving gloves. The 1972 De Tomaso Pantera, on the other hand, a yellow and black caricature of low slung sleekness, cries out for an expensive Italian shirt open to the waist and a chunky gold medallion.

As well as all the cars — and a few motor bikes — Sparkford also displays some motoring memorabilia. My eye was caught by a summons issued to some road hog in 1896, who "did unlawfully drive a certain locomotive, to wit: a motor car, through a certain town at a greater speed than two miles an hour" and without a man on foot 20 yards ahead of him. From that to the De Lorean is indeed quite a step.

Sparkford Motor Museum, Sparkford, Somerset (0963 40804). Open every day, 9.30am to 5.30pm. Admission to June 30: adults £1.50, children and OAPs £1. Admission after July 1: adults £2, children £1.20, OAPs and students, £1.60.

Paint and poetry

OUTINGS

ARTS AL FRESCO: Festival of contemporary arts, chiefly promoting the works of 18 talented young artists. Poetry readings from the portico steps of Burlington House by some of our best poets, including Alan Brownjohn and David Gascoigne, interspersed with recitals by students from the Guildhall School of Music, Trinity College of Music, and the Royal College of Music. Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1 (01-439 7438). Today, tomorrow 10am-6pm. Free.

ALNWICK FAIR: One of the best traditional old country fairs begins tomorrow. From 11.30am, an ox roast, bell-ringing and Fair Queen competitions, minstrels, Morris men, plus other entertainments. From 3pm, an open air service followed by procession and the *Pie Powder Court* — maidens ducked and swains pilloried — and other entertainments throughout the evening.

KENT GARDENS OPEN DAYS: Sixteen delightful private gardens — from the small cottage to the large landscaped — open to the public. Chiddingstone, near Tonbridge, Kent (tel 0892 770629). Tomorrow, 2pm-6pm. Entrance to all gardens inclusive, £1.50.

ACTON COURT OPEN DAY: Rare opportunity to view the excavations and archaeological investigations at the 16th-century house built by Sir Nicholas Poyntz. Exhibition, guided tours, teas. Acton Court, near Chipping Sodbury, Somerset (further information from Bath Archaeological Trust, 0225 461111). Tomorrow 11.30am-4.30pm. Free.

MIDDLESEX SHOW: Numerous events including parachute, falconry, sheep-dog, and field-gun displays, refreshments. The Showground, Park Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex. Today, tomorrow, 9am-5pm. Adult £3, child £1.

Judy Froshaug

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Ch Thieuley 87 Bordeaux Clairette	£41.50	£3.49

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*A case is 12 bottles. All purchases must be a minimum of 12 bottles — any mix — it is only a minimum. No minimum purchase at Putney and Streatham. All prices include VAT. Prices may vary as a result of currency and tax fluctuations. All goods offered subject to remaining unsold.

THE ARTS

Majesty in the monastery

MARC VAN APPELGHEN



Royals: Samuel Ramey (Philip) and Rosalind Plowright (Elisabetta)

Don Carlo
Grand Théâtre, Geneva

Geneva are closing their '87/88 season in high style. They have a *Don Carlo*, in co-production with Bologna, that is staged by Andrei Serban with dark and brooding majesty. It is cast with strength and imagination. Italophiles will note with some chagrin that the only Italian on stage takes the tiny role of the Countess of Aremberg in Verdi's opera; anglophiles will rejoice in the contributions of Rosalind Plowright (Elisabetta) and Richard Armstrong in the pit.

Geneva have gone, as Karajan did at Salzburg, for the four-act version in Italian, but with a good deal more of the final encounter between Carlo and Elisabetta than is generally heard in the theatre — a good job that Neil Shicoff in the title role and Plowright had plenty still to give as the clock moved towards midnight.

So the opera opens and closes within the monastery of San Yuste, preserver of the tomb of Charles V of Spain and a gloomy monument to a gloomy Spanish faith in the eyes of Serban and his designer, Yannis Kokkos. Two skeletons cling to the central pillar of the nave, indication that if flesh is frequently flagellated while alive during the Inquisition then it soon drops off with the release brought by death.

Kokkos, like Philip Prowse, is a trader in black and white broken only by sumptuous costumes, filigreed and brocaded. But, unlike Prowse, he sees the world askew: the columns of San Yuste lean at an angle of 45 degrees, so does the grille of Carlo's prison cell. When Philip II sings "Ella giammai m'amo" before a line of eight-foot high upright candles it comes almost as a visual shock. The feeling is that someone — most probably the Catholic Church in this instance — is trying to turn the world upside down. Kokkos cre-

OPERA

John Higgins hears the British triumph in Geneva while Hilary Finch catches Steven Berkoff's play *Greek*, set to music in Munich, before it reaches the West End

ates much the same feeling as he did in the controversial and memorable sets he devised for *Macbeth* at the Paris Opéra a few seasons back.

Serban, by keeping Verdi in the dark virtually throughout, isolates his principals in their private worlds of sorrow. At the centre is Samuel Ramey's Philip, a more robust figure than usual despite his grizzled locks (crin bianco), unloved by his wife, dominated by the Grand Inquisitor (Kevin Langan, looking a cross between Kojak and a living skull) and the visualising security as a personal tomb in the Escorial. Ramey's voice takes on pure bass roles such as these with almost insolent ease, every note in place and no hint of vocal pressure. Another remarkable performance from him.

Rosalind Plowright already has a nice line in wronged royals in her repertoire and Elisabetta joins them as a tense and withdrawn queen, who seems to recoil from all human contact whether it be from her admiring stepson, Carlo, or Philip himself. It is one of the toughest soprano roles in Verdi, with everything to achieve in the last half hour with "Tu che la vanita" and in this staging a lengthy duet with Carlo. Plowright was careless with some of her Italian early on, but took all her considerable vocal power off the rein as Elisabetta looks forward to a better world the next time round.

myth to present-day Tufnell Park. That, at least, is where it all began. Eddy, who supports Arsenal F.C., runs away from home, meets his future wife in a café and polishes off her husband in a brawl. He then discovers that he was adopted after a childhood accident in Southend. It all sounds rather too familiar to his new wife, who spots the teddy bear.

Meanwhile, rubbish is putrefying in the streets of London, and "lovers are afraid to stroke each other's groins". The time is out of joint. You know the rest. Because it must not be too predictable, and because it is Berkoff, Eddy decides he rather likes it all anyway: after all, all you need is love...

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The band is augmented by hammer, metal bar, ratchet, dustbin lid, whip and police whistle. It is everything that punk culture did 10 years ago, and did both more potently and more stylishly.

Where the theatre and the music of hate have moved on, Turnage and Berkoff now remain, nostalgically producing artefacts, of, for and by middle-class culture consumers.

To hear conventionally trained opera singers trying to get their tongues round cockney is not a little painful: their distorted attempts, and some particularly

weak word setting, made most of the text all but inaudible.

In the end, though, it is not so much the infelicity of its execution as the hollowing of its vision which loses credibility for *Greek*. Neither Berkoff nor Turnage move us through either pity or fear: to handle this theme by substituting caricature for compassion, posturing and play-acting for violence, is to lose the way.

The music runs concurrently with, rather than being motivated by, the play. As a score, it is accomplished: well-paced, imaginatively heard and clearly constructed. Turnage's characteristically sensuous timbres harden into percussive refrains, as Eddy's fantasies of a better world are articulated against a cynical

Neil Shicoff has a natural Italian timbre and he has stamina too, as his Hoffmanns on stage have proved. There was no question of his being overpowered by Plowright at the close, although earlier he deliberately portrayed Carlo as hangdoggy figure, anxious for a bone of attention from his step-mother. He was well contrasted with Hakan Hagegard's solidly loyal Posa. He is not a baritone normally associated with Verdi and it must have been something of a risk to mix him in with such an experienced cast, but Hagegard, despite a certain lack of legato, paid dividends on the gamble.

Eva Randova, commuting between Geneva and Covent Garden, stood in for an indisposed Tatiana Troyanos as Eboli. Again she is not a natural Verdi singer and the words were indistinct, but she certainly knows how to throw herself into a role, especially when Eboli in "O don fatale" becomes the one character in the opera to cast off inhibitions for a moment. Praise too for Barbara Bonney, ritz casting for Tebaldo, but not quite secure as the Heavenly Voice.

The strength of the orchestral playing, once a fluffy start was overcome, made one wish that Richard Armstrong had started his international conducting career much earlier than he did. All the well-known Armstrong vigour was there and the willingness to submerge himself in the score, but with it were clear signs of the most precise preparation both on stage and in the pit.

And that characterized the whole performance. As is often the case with Serban, there are things that still need attention — the final curtain is weak — but this is a stirring *Carlo* with not a flimsy musical link.

J.H.

●The final performance is tomorrow and June 30 with the latter transmitted live on Radio 3.

subtext, of exaggerated vibrato and glissando wind, harp and piano. There are impressive set-pieces like the Plague march, which turns into a frenzied scherzo of violence, and like the journey to the Sphinx with muted trumpet and vibrating bass clarinet.

Jonathan Moore's staging responds with some suitable effects. There is mime, nicely attuned to the terse cut and thrust of word and music.

Fiona Kimm as Doreen, Waitress, etc. and Quentin Hayes as Eddy, acted with a commitment matched only by the playing of the Ensemble Modern, under the clear-sighted direction of Sian Edwards.

H.F.

Captured slave of the servant

DONALD COOPER



Upper hand: George Harris turns the tables on Miranda Richardson

THEATRE

The Changeling
Lyttelton

The title character of Middleton and Rowley's masterpiece is Antonio, the "counterfeit fool" who gets himself committed to a madhouse the better to pursue his proprietor's wife.

It is not this figure from the comic sub-plot that audiences remember, but the appalling partnership of Beatrice-Joanna and de Flores: the delicate beauty who hires this physically repulsive servant to rid her of an unwanted suitor, only to find that he demands the victim's place. These two, equally, are changelings; and the structure of the whole piece, with its calculated parallels between the harmless institutionalized lunatics and the mad killers on the loose outside, projects the sense of a society reeling with moral verigo.

In this powerfully imagined production, Richard Eyre clarifies these upheavals by advancing the action a couple of centuries to a Spanish slave colony in the period of Goya, sumptuously evoked in William Dudley's unified set.

The production also draws on Goya for its images of the tragedy's mainspring of erotomania. It opens with the sight of a pack of flapping, birdlike creatures out of Goya's *Caprichos* lifting the principals upright and setting them in motion like elegantly costumed dolls. In another grotesque pantomime, the lunatics supervise Beatrice's false marriage to the unsuspecting Alsemero, with the ghost of his murdered rival joining in the festivities and speeding up the party into a shuddering dance of death. Pantomimes and text alike are nightmarishly reinforced by Dominic Muldowney's accompaniments which combine doom-laden guitar dances with percussive *musique concrète* which sounds like the amplified slamming of prison doors.

Irving Wardle

Not one for the album

Shadowing the
Conqueror
Traverse, Edinburgh

What would today's portrait photographers have made of the great figures of history? One can imagine Snowdon's Cleopatra perhaps or a study of Julius Caesar by Jane Bown.

In Peter Jukes' new play it is one Mary Ellis who has Alexander the Great in her studio. Unable to capture what she wants indoors — "it's difficult for a conqueror to be natural" — she gets herself invited along on his last great expedition to the east. This gives the two of them unlimited opportunity to bandy the ideas to and fro about what life is all about.

Not for nothing is the photographer female using her perspective to undermine Alexander's obsession with conquest, his need to control everything before he can acknowledge that it exists. He on the other hand is the life force, getting things done, making things happen while she merely hides behind her camera or her sunglasses.

Robert Dawson Scott

Greek
Munich Biennale

A few days before the revival of Steven Berkoff's play *Greek* opens at Wyndham's Theatre, a new opera by Mark-Anthony Turnage based on its text has been unveiled in Germany. It will arrive at the Edinburgh Festival at the end of August; but its world premiere was scooped by the first Munich Biennale, a bold new festival, under the artistic directorship of Hans Werner Henze, in which Bavaria's capital pledges itself to provide considerable funding and platforms at the Gasteig for the work of young music-theatre composers.

Greek transposes the Oedipus

myth to present-day Tufnell Park. That, at least, is where it all began. Eddy, who supports Arsenal F.C., runs away from home, meets his future wife in a café and polishes off her husband in a brawl. He then discovers that he was adopted after a childhood accident in Southend. It all sounds rather too familiar to his new wife, who spots the teddy bear.

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Martin Cropper

Grave matters

TELEVISION

Now that the evenings are drawing in, the time is right for exotic and undemanding travelogues. The *Yellow River* (BBC2) meets both adjectives. Shot by a Japanese crew in the western uplands of China, last night's opener featured yak-milking, barley-beer throwing, a Buddhist marriage and, by way of balance, a full-scale funeral.

Summoned by the monks' braying, a posse of vultures obligingly dropped in to polish off the dear departed (not shown in close-up). The sight of these splendid creatures keenly lolloping up the hill at feeding time was, I suspect, the image of the week.

Those unfortunate enough not to survive a sojourn in Jimmy's (YTV) will doubtless be granted more conventional obsequies. Set in St James's Infirmary, Leeds, this documentary series is the kind of thing that makes one feel sick just reading the puff in *TV Times*. The gore-factor was in fact re-

stricted to a full-frontal Caesarean section, and the credits managed to roll just as a mouth-cancer victim was wheeled into theatre to have his chin rebuilt.

The strength of this engaging eye-on-the-wall essay was the way it managed to subsume the obvious points about the NHS (the doctor on 90 minutes' sleep a night; the fresh intake of nurses shown how to steal one another's food) under the relentless chirpiness of the caring relationship.

Artists on Film (BBC2) rolled on with unique footage of Stanley Spencer talking the camera through *The Resurrection in Cookham Churchyard*; a shot of Graham Sutherland proving his dexterity at drawing arcs (he used compasses); and an excellently crisp and evocative piece on the daubing collier Norman Cornish. Now who could have been responsible for this little gem from 1963? Step forward Melvyn Bragg.

Onward Christian soldiers

DANCE

Hymns/That Was
Fast
The Place

get a lot of quiet fun out of hopping almost unnoticed across the borders.

For this new version Burrows has added an epilogue for the two dancers in which the same movement motifs are developed into more free moving dance forms to a Bach chorale and a Chopin nocturne; also a lengthy prologue for William Trevitt, William Tuckett and Jeremy Sheffield to pop music in South American style by Wilson Simonal.

What a relief this gifted, controlled, understated choreography was after what we endured on the same stage earlier in the week. The name given to their collaboration by Karen Pearlman, a dummy American, and Richard Allen, a

scraggy Australian, is *That Was Fast*. It gives a seriously misleading expectation of what proves to be a rambling, self-indulgent show.

Ms Pearlman, aka Mrs Allen, might look quite good if they performed choreography more cogent and demanding than their own. But the steps they use are mostly the conventional jiggling about which you will find in commercial shows, made to look just a little bit different by a slight derangement of timing or pattern, and by the fact that what he does rarely has any connection with what she does, except when she tries to climb on to him.

Allen is also something of a poetaster. Disjointed lines from his verses are incorporated in the accompaniments, and between dances the performers read out entire poems, full of sexual boasting and completely unconnected remarks. I am not sure which was worse: that or the dancing.

John Percival

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REVIEW

Veteran uses his instincts

Iggy Pop, the lined veteran of many a lost campaign, surprised everyone 18 months ago when he enjoyed his first hit with "Real Wild Child". On instinct he renews his partnership with the former Sex Pistols guitarist, Steve Jones, with whom he co-wrote four of the 10 tracks.

Jones has a peculiarly leaden way with power riff guitar playing, and the album suffers from the unmitigated effect of his presence throughout. Pop turns in a workmanlike vocal performance, plainly influenced by the Sisters Of Mercy on the attractive "Low-down". But at other times he betrays an uncertain finger on the melodic trigger, especially on the closing rant of "Squarehead".

Pat Benatar's archetypically American brand of tough girl rock'n'roll has not taken root in Britain to the extent that it has in her homeland, where her first six albums all achieved platinum or multi-platinum sales. However, last year's *Best Shots* compilation reached the UK Top 10, and perhaps the British market, softened up by the recent success of Heart, will embrace *Wide Awake In Dreamland* with a new enthusiasm. The album has a vogue-ish Seventies progressive rock feel about it, and is certainly on a par with any of Benatar's previous work. At her best on "Cool Zero", "Lift 'Em On Up" and the single, "All Fired Up", she deploys her gritty voice without pretension to barge a melodic passage through a dense undergrowth of chunky, post-Keith Richards guitar riffs. However, when she goes for the Big

ROCK RECORDS

Iggy Pop: Instinct (A&M AMA 5198)
Pat Benatar: Wide Awake In Dreamland (Chrysalis CHR 1628)
Robert Palmer: Heavy Nova (EMI EMC 3548)
The Georgia Satellites: Open All Night (Elektra EKT 47)
Defunkt: In America (Anilles AN 8730)

Statement usually accompanied by an attempt to stretch the material across more complex arrangements ("Too Long A Soldier", "Cerebral Man") it all sounds a lot less convincing.

Robert Palmer has come up with an album of alarming contrasts, summed up by the title, *Heavy Nova*: literally, a collection of styles ranging from heavy rock to bossa nova. And why not?

On "Simply Irresistible" and "More Than Ever" Palmer indulges the latent fascination for a good, throbbing power chord which besets every red-blooded male musician at some time or other, before slipping with disconcerting ease into the modelling melody of "Change His Ways", a neo-calypto rhythmic concoction, replete with highlife guitars, cajon accordion and fiddle.

The mixing and matching gets even more ingenious on Side 2 where African chants rub shoulders with a brutal backbeat on "Casting A Spell" and the singing latin rhythms of "Between Us" conjures images of warm night breezes blowing gently from the ocean. But the standout song is a version of

the Burke/Van Heusen standard, "It Could Happen To You", recorded with an acoustic quartet and string orchestra. In the wake of Rick Astley's and Simply Red's successes with Nat King Cole and Cole Porter songs, this could be a tremendous hit.

It is a lot harder than it sounds to hit the perennial white boy R'n'B groove that falls precisely between the styles of the Faces and early Rolling Stones, but with some serious touring under their belts, the Georgia Satellites have now got it wrapped up to perfection. *Open All Night* is a glorious celebration of boozey, bluesy singing and rifting, carried off with intelligence and aplomb. Two things put them in front of the pack. One is the casual-sounding but razor-sharp vocal harmonies and the other is Rick Price's romping bass parts.

The trombonist Joe Bowie's "conceptual dictatorship", Defunkt, is back on the rails after a recording absence of almost five years. In America is a passionate, exhilarating blast of heavy-mannered, jazz-funk-rock which picks up where the old line-up left off. Weighty slabs of extemporization feature plenty of virtuoso guitar soloing in the "thermonuclear" tradition by Bill Bickford, broken up by pugnacious horn section interjections and underpinned by rapid-fire funk rhythms.

The title track makes witty use of sampled extracts from the speeches of American presidents. Richard Nixon's contributions are cut up and welded into an especially brazen if comically illogical rap.

David Sinclair



Iggy Pop: the veteran of many a lost campaign finally had a hit; now he is trying again on Instinct

THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

Singing for sales

The Mandela Birthday Concert may not have sprung, Mandela but it has proved quite a springboard for the musicians who played there, most of whom had recently released records in the shops. Early indications are that the concert has boosted sales of albums by around 100,000—an effect comparable only to Live Aid and the televised British Record Industry Awards this spring. The greatest boost was for Tracy Chapman, whose album put on 14,000 sales to take it from 25th place in the album chart to number two. Dire Straits earned an extra 15,000 sales across five albums and Whitney Houston another 10,000. In all, 24 albums of artists who appeared at Wembley put on sales.

● Theatre designer John Napier, who designed *Cats* and *Starlight Express* for Andrew Lloyd Webber, is evidently tiring of the grand scale. Having wrestled with millions of pounds worth of electronics in a new theatre in Bochum purpose-built to bring *Starlight* to the Germans, Napier tells me he has just bought a Victorian warehouse round the corner from the Barbican in London for use as the simplest of performance spaces. Timber Street Workshop is to be primarily somewhere in which young musicians can develop performance art, but the public will be invited in for the occasional short run.

Untidy Aida

Pity the costume people at Earl's Court where Verdi's *Aida* begins its run tomorrow (see page 22). It seems that not all of the cast of 600, many of them extras with little experience of grand opera, have been treating their outfits with respect. After this week's first dress rehearsal, Carolyn Soutar, the company manager, posted anguished notices backstage: "The mess left behind



after last night's rehearsal was unbelievable and totally unacceptable." Costumes had been dumped in lifts and corridors "and everywhere other than back in your rooms on hangers". Although the notice was posted outside "Divina Village" the corner occupied by the stars, I am sure Grace Bumbry, Piero Cappelletti et al are blameless.

Thyssen's coup

Even as the competition for his picture collection was hotting up the other weekend, I learn that Baron Thyssen was boasting of his latest buy. During a tour of an exhibition of Russian revolutionary art at his Villa Favorita home, the Baron suddenly grabbed Zoya Novikova, the Soviet ambassador, by the elbow and hissed: "In here, I have something I must show you." What was it? An abstract by Lisisky, a 1930s Russian artist whose works were for years banned in the Soviet Union. Yet when the pair emerged a few minutes later, she was congratulating him on his acquisition, which had been delivered only hours before. That's *perestroika* for you.

Chipping in

Put behind you preconceptions about bitter academic rivalry between the nations. Two orientalist from the Hermitage Museum in Leningrad were visiting the Victoria & Albert recently when one mentioned how much he envied British academics' easy access to word processors: the waiting list in Russia for a machine is, apparently, for ever. Robert Skelton, keeper of the Indian collection had an easy solution. He said: "Let me buy you one." Impressed by his generosity 10 colleagues from the V & A and British Museum have chipped in and a new but modestly priced printer is now on its way to Russia. Says Skelton: "As I saw it a few hundred pounds would do them a lot more good than me."

Andrew Billen

Father and son

PAPERBACKS

The Centaur, by John Updike (Andre Deutsch, £4.95)

George Caldwell, bored to the point of hypochondria, is a general science teacher at Olinger High School, where his teenage son is a pupil. Updike, using the myth of Chiron — the noble centaur who, painfully wounded yet unable to die, gave up his immortality on behalf of Prometheus — as a framework, explores the relationship of the father and son over three winter days, during which bad weather prevents them returning home.

Updike's characteristic preoccupations — the erotic, the pain implicit in human relationships, and the sacred, almost explicitly religious, moments in daily life — are all here. Flamboyant as ever, he skillfully merges blackboard rubrics, marital crises and broken-down cars with Venus, Persephone and the Underworld in alternating chapters of narrative and retrospection, scored in ornate, highly-charged prose. This re-issue proves that Updike was not just a flash in the cult Sixties pan.

Sarah Edworthy

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

FICTION

Dream People, by Barbara Hanrahan (Palladin, £3.50)
 Short stories of ordinary Australians a generation ago, cheerily having a hard time, coping with small-town Oz narrowness.

Partings, by Leonid Borodin, translated by David Floyd (Collins Harvill, £4.95)
 Dissident's funny and tender love and political story set in a contemporary Russia.

Tales from Winney Scrum, by Peter Tinniswood (Arrow, £2.50)
 Daffy celebration of two centuries of cricket as our national lunacy, with the Brigadier and Surrealism as umpires.

The Room, by Hubert Selby Jr (Palladin, £3.95)
 Modernist, harrowing, powerful stuff about despair and degradation from author of *Last Exit to Brooklyn*.

NON-FICTION
Emigrants and Exiles, by Kerby A. Miller (Oxford, £8.95)
 Comprehensive history of Ireland and the Irish exodus to America.

Europe Without America, by John Palmer (Oxford, £4.95)
 European editor of *The Guardian* on the crisis in Atlantic relations, and the future face of the new world we approach.

First Lines, chosen and introduced by Jon Stallworthy (Oxford, £4.95)
 An anthology of beginner's poems written in childhood and early youth, from Milton to Seamus Heaney.

Big band brothers

JAZZ RECORDS

Chris McGregor's Brotherhood of Breath (Country Cooking (Venture VE17))

First heard at various London venues in the summer of 1970, the original edition of Chris McGregor's *Brotherhood of Breath* was a band of such volcanic intensity that those who heard it in person will forever count it among their most vivid jazz memories. By some miraculous alchemy, the leader blended the music of his fellow South African expatriates with the avant-garde styles of their British colleagues to create an ensemble of great power and originality.

Now domiciled in France, McGregor has revived the *Brotherhood* from time to time in recent years, assembling an almost completely new personnel but sticking to a similar formula. *Country Cooking*, the first studio recording by the *Brotherhood* of the 1980s, at last provides something to put alongside the two RCA albums from the early 1970s.

Harry Beckett, the redoubtable Barbadian trumpeter, is the only hold-over from the old days; several of the other names in this 14-piece outfit are familiar from the ranks of Loose Tubes and the Jazz

WARRIORS

McGregor has instilled into his team the true spirit of their predecessors, and the first side of *Country Cooking* is strong on the sort of characteristic townships dance tunes that invariably stir a concert audience to a rare pitch of excitement.

No surprises there — but the three times on the second side are something else again. "Big G", by George Lee, who played with the *Brotherhood* in the early Eighties, is a dazzling piece of up-tempo ensemble writing, opening out to provide solo space for the bassist, Ernest Motile, and Jeff Gordon's impassioned tenor saxophone. McGregor's "Maxine" is a wonderful, delicate 10-minute ballad performance featuring superb solos by Steve Williamson's lean tenor and Beckett's lyrical flugelhorn. Finally, McGregor's "Dakar" quickens the pace to remind us of Ellington's essays in African exotica, its featured solos including particularly effective contributions from Julian Argüelles on soprano saxophone and Williamson, this time on alto. There is not much doubting the *Brotherhood* of Breath's claim to stand among the few genuinely worthwhile big bands to be heard in jazz today.

Richard Williams

Private musical moments

A grain of sand and a world. Suzanne Stephens's recital and the CD reissue of *Donnerstag* show how private and public genres have intertwined in Stockhausen's recent music.

Stephens plays pieces which were written as gifts for herself and other women in Stockhausen's entourage, but which belong with his much larger works in their melodic style, their didactic forms and their solemnity of utterance; while *Donnerstag*, designed as an opera for the broadest audience, is full of private intimations, not least in the prominent parts given to three of the composer's children and, again, to Stephens.

Both recordings represent the composer as teacher, whether his ashram is his home or the world; both there by cast the listener as disciple. This educational nature of the music is especially marked in *In Freundschaft* (1977-8), a universal teaching aid in being available to any instrumentalist (Stephens plays it on clarinet and in laying its processes of melodic generation and change unusually bare. *Amour* (1974-6), more particularly devised for Stephens's clarinet, is a set of five character pieces, though still conceived so that the listener is instructed in the compositional method: the

CLASSICAL RECORDS

Stockhausen: In Freundschaft, Traum-Formel, Amour. Stephens, DG 423 378-2
Stockhausen: Donnerstag aus Licht. Various musicians, DG 423 379-2 (four CDs)
Schoenberg: Piano works. Pollini, DG 423 249-2
Webern: Passacaglia, Five Pieces op.5, Six Pieces op.6, Symphony. Berlin PO/Karajan, DG 423 254-2
Wolfe: Kleine Dreigroschenmusik, Mahagonny Songspiel, Violin Concerto. Solists, London Sinfonietta/Athena, DG 255-2
Honegger: Symphonies nos. 2-3. Berlin PO/Karajan, DG 242-2

same is true of *Traum-Formel* for basset horn (1981).

Stockhausen's notes encourage the use of these pieces as superior aural training, as when he says that listeners to *Traum-Formel* "can find out how much they can actually hear" in a melodic line presenting elements of a five-part polyphony; oddly he does not mention that the piece is an offshoot from the first scene of *Samsag*, the second opera from *Licht*. Stephens plays the pieces with an appropriate reverent clarity, and the recordings bring one right up close to her mouth

and fingers. All that is missing, except in the cover photograph, is the portentous posing that should emphasize the strange charm of these messages vouchsafed us.

The drama of cosmic virtuosos arrived to enlighten us is, of course, easier to imagine in *Donnerstag*, and perhaps, easier to accept, given the imaginative richness of the last two acts in particular. It is good to have this major work of the last decade available on CD: *Samsag* is due to follow soon.

Meanwhile Deutsche Grammophon have released the first 10 mid-price issues in a promising series of 20th-century classics. And classics many of these recordings certainly are: not least Pollini's Schoenberg recital, Karajan's fine exposition of the loveliness and drama in Webern, and the selection from the London Sinfonietta's excellently sharp and characterful Weill recordings. It is encouraging, too, that the series is not limited to a narrow notion of modernity, but includes Karajan's unsurpassed recordings of Honegger's Second and Third symphonies, works we need to hear (the Third especially) as much as Webern.

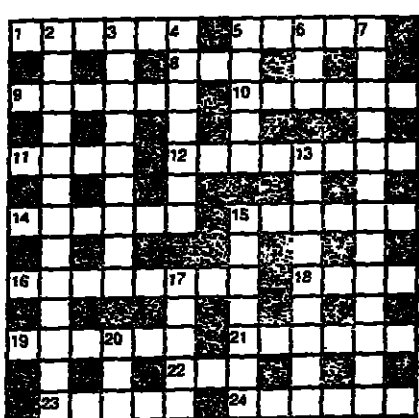
Paul Griffiths

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- 21 Landed property (6)
- 22 Idle talk (3)
- 23 Wear away (5)
- 24 Artillery projectiles (6)



DOWN

- 2 Inconclusive (13)
- 3 Coast (9)
- 4 Withdraw (7)
- 6 Rise from bed (3,2)
- 7 Camel hair cloth (3)
- 13 Handled spectacles (9)
- 15 Female part player (7)
- 17 Come together (5)
- 20 Bravery award (1,1,1)

SOLUTION TO NO 1593 (last Saturday's prize concise)
 ACROSS: 1 Closes 5 Logos 8 Pair 9 Escape 10 Phoebe 11 Gene 12 Conspire 14 Rigour 15 Clinax 16 Agitprop 18 Suds 19 Cosmos 21 Con man 22 Tea 23 Tabby 25 Theism
 DOWN: 2 Listening post 3 Scapgoat 4 Spencer 5 Lupin 6 Goo 7 St Bernard 13 Pussance 15 Copycat 17 Rusty 20 Mob

The winners of prize concise No 1593 are: Mrs M. Johnson, Brampton Road, Shirley, Southampton, Hampshire and Mr D.T. Price, Richmond Road, Mountain Ash, Mid Glamorgan.

SOLUTION TO NO 1598

ACROSS: 1 Intact 4 Cherub 9 Kumquat 10 Curio 11 Eels 12 Angstrom 14 Pistol 15 Bedrock 18 Ordinance 20 Poor 22 Inept 23 Althea 24 Myster
 DOWN: 1 Ink 2 Tumulus 3 Crux 5 Hucklester 6 Rarer 7 Book-maker 8 Sling 11 Euphonium 13 Repartee 16 Bonfire 17 Scrag 19 Dregs 21 Ghee 24 Tar

Name

Address

BRIDGE

Success born out of a revolt

For those unfamiliar with the convention, let me briefly explain that an opening of two diamonds is used to describe either a weak two in a major, or a balanced 20-21 point hand or a 4-4-4-1 hand with 17-24 points.

To mark the club's 20th anniversary, Pitch invited a team of 12 international experts to play against a side selected from the Young Chelsea's strong pool of players. The result, which really did not matter, was a clear-cut victory for the visitors, but certainly no disgrace for the club, as the opposition consisted of the nucleus of the British team who did duty in Jamaica, combined with two British pairs who are sure to figure prominently in the trials for Helsinki. This October was reinforced by the current World Mixed Pairs Champions, George Mittleman and Dianna Gordon from Canada, and Jans Jansma and Rob Van Wel, two members of the Dutch World Junior Champions.

The multi-coloured two diamonds convention attracts much hostile criticism. To redress the balance, here is a hand from the match where the weapon was successfully employed in its constructive sense.

(1) Content to play in two hearts, if South is showing a weak two bid in hearts.
 (2) Presumably 4-4-1-4, with 17-20 points.
 (3) Control asking.
 (4) 5 controls (all Aces=2, a King=1).
 (5) Cue bid.
 (6) Accepting a try four hearts would be the sign off. Although only 17 points, the hand is well but together.
 (7) Forward going, but reflecting concern over the quality of the spades.
 (8) They couldn't be better.

The play would not test an expert, but it is a good exercise for the average player. There is certainly an admonitory lesson for those declarers who rush into battle without counting their tricks.

If South, deciding that he can see only one loser, prematurely draws trumps, he will find himself with only 11 sure tricks.

In practice, declarer decided to play on reverse dummy lines. After winning the lead with dummy's ♠A, he ruffed a diamond with a top trump. Now came the key play, a club to the Queen. If the ♠Q wins, it provides the extra entry required to ruff dummy's diamonds. If the ♠Q loses, then declarer will have established three club tricks and therefore requires only two diamond ruffs. A second diamond ruff with the ♠K was followed by a heart to the Ace. After ruffing dummy's last diamond with the ♠A, declarer could cross to dummy with a trump, draw the trumps, give up a club and claim the remainder.

At the prize giving I suggested to Warwick Pitch that the present membership level must be close to the maximum desirable. "No," he replied. "You see, although we get about 150 new members each year, we generally lose about 120."

Jeremy Flint

CHESS

Meeting of minds

Britain's leading chess Grandmasters, Nigel Short and Jon Speelman, are challenging the top Russian Grandmaster, Anatoly Karpov in a \$200,000 (£113,000) tournament in Belfort, France.

Belfort represents the second leg of the World Cup Grand Prix organized by the breakaway group, Kasparov's Grandmaster Association, which wants reform in FIDE, the World Chess Federation. First prize in the Belfort tournament is \$100,000 with a further \$100,000 being transferred to a central pot for redistribution to overall winners of the six-leg circuit.

The most notable result so far has been a lengthy victory by Sokolov against Kasparov's perennial rival, Anatoly Karpov. The most brilliant, attractive and instructive game, however, was that played by the former World Champion Boris Spassky against the Icelandic Grandmaster Johann Hjartarson.

White: Boris Spassky; Black: Johann Hjartarson. Closed Sicilian Defence, World Cup Belfort.

Spassky tends to prefer the Closed Sicilian as a means of attack since it does not require him to memorize reams of opening theory, and thus gives scope for his natural genius to unfold in relatively uncharted situations.

Spassky's eighth move was an astute capture which, although it surrendered Bishop

for Knight, exploited the relative slowness of Black's attempt to fianchetto his Queen's Bishop. Hjartarson would have been better advised to play ... Nxe2 on his seventh move.

The only way to maintain material parity in view of White's attack against the Black pawn on d4.

The Black position is already a wreck. White's development is superb and Black's King is pinned down in the centre of the board.

Trying to avoid a deadly Knight invasion from White should his own Knight retreat.

Black resigned.

If Black responds to the threat from White's Queen against his Rook on b8 then Spassky can play the devastating f6+ picking up the Black Queen. A marvellous game by Spassky.

Raymond Keene

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THE WEEK AHEAD



THEATRE

ROZA'S RETURN: Georgia Brown, who has had a great personal success on Broadway in Harold Prince's *Madame Roza*, returns to the West End stage, where she was last seen in *42nd Street*. In Steven Berkoff's *Grease*, which repeats the limited season played by his *Decadence* in 1987 at the same theatre, Berkoff directs and leads, with Gillian Eaton and Bruce Payne. Previews today (matinee and evening), Monday and Tuesday; opening night Wednesday, at Wyndham's Theatre (01-636 3028).



JAZZ

LOOSE FLUTE: Philip Bent, the Jazz Warriors flautist, is one of the array of artists on display at the two-day *Seen On The Green* festival, in London. Today's highlight is a celebration of racial harmony — a specially commissioned performance by a band featuring members of the all-black Warriors and the predominantly white Loose Tubes orchestra. Tomorrow's concerts are rounded off by the splendid Andy Sheppard. Jazz Cafe, Newington Green (01-359 4936), tonight and tomorrow 8pm.



BOOKS

LATIN AMERICAN LOVER: Gabriel Garcia Marquez's *Love in the Time of Cholera* is a powerful, poetic and comic long-distance love story set on the Caribbean coast. For 50 years a breath-taking beauty, now old and just widowed, has recoiled in pride and guilt from her secret lover. His desolate obsession has led him into an enigmatic existence in spite of his renown in business. One Pentecost, love found a new tongue with which to speak. Unique Marquez magic of the sadness and funniness of humanity. *Cape* £11.95, Thursday.



OPERA

HOLDING COURT: Giuseppe Verdi, Verona style, comes to Earl's Court for a week. Vittorio Rossi's highly traditional production of *Aida* has already been seen in that Italian arena as well as in Paris and Zurich. Earl's Court audiences can expect 600 people on stage, but no livestock. Grace Bumbry, a long-time Amneris, takes the title role on the opening night. Four other sopranos are scheduled for later performances, and indeed casts will change rapidly. Earls Court (01-741 8989), from Sunday 7pm.



GALLERIES

FOUND ILLUSIONS: Stephen Garth has followed an idiosyncratic course to bring him to his present position as an astute interpreter of contemporary life. He began his career as an abstract collagist, and moved on to reinterpretations of Bourbon state portraits. He has recently come abreast of public anxieties with pictures of fighter aircraft and missiles spooking country cottages. A retrospective of Garth's work is at Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool (051 207 0001), from today.



CONCERTS

CONSOLATION PRIZE: Plácido Domingo is back in London after appearances in Tokyo for two concerts of operatic arias and duets at Covent Garden, on Tuesday and July 6, as recompense for the cancelled appearances in the current run of *Lohengrin*. He will be joined by Cheryl Studer, Eva Randova and Thomas Allen in an evening of French and Italian music drawing on Berlioz, Meyerbeer, Verdi, Puccini and Rossini. John Barker conducts the ROH Orchestra. Covent Garden (01-240 1066), Tuesday 7.30pm.

THEATRE LONDON

LA DIVA DU TENNIS: Daria Ellis as tennis champion Suzanne Lenglen, in a spectacle of dance, music, theatre and film, by Rachel Salik. French Institute (01-589 6211). Opens Tues. Until July 2.

LONDON SHOWCASE: Welsh College of Music and Drama's annual visit, with 26 items of an assuredly high standard. Lunchtime and evening shows. Old Red Lion, 418 St John Street, EC1 (01-837 7816). From Mon to July 2.

PLAY/LUCIFER: Samuel Beckett's 1964 play in a double bill with the English language premiere of the Dutch playwright Vondel's *Lucifer* (1654), adapted by Noel Clark. Bloomsbury (01-387 9629). Opens Tues. Until July 2.

ROMEO AND JULIET: Temba Theatre Company's version is set in 19th-century Cuba and director Alby James has been touring the show successfully. Young Vic (01-928 8363). Preview Wed. Opens Thurs.

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD: Co-production with Nottingham Playhouse, directed by Kenneth Alan Taylor, adapted by Christopher Sergel from the Harper Lee novel. Greenwich (01-558 7755). Previews from Thurs. Opens July 4.

OUT OF TOWN

COVENTRY: Bare Necessities: Rob Bettinson directs the premiere of his adult comedy about composite life. Madge Hindle, Brain Poyser, Christopher Saul, Carmen Rodriguez and Mary Healey. Belgrade (0203 553055) Opens Thurs.

LEATHERHEAD: Bird of Paradise: Premiere of musical play by Rob Keys and Richard Stokes, intended for Middle School children and families. Total company includes more than 250 Surrey children. Thornton (0272 377677). Opens Thurs matinee.

LUDLOW: Twelfth Night: Open air production with Bryan Pringle, Anna David, Liz Crowther, Vitma and Imogen, directed by Michael Napier Brown. Ludlow Castle (0584 2150). Opens tonight.

MANCHESTER: Born Yesterday: Brenda Blethyn, Derrick O'Connor, Tom Watson, Terence Wilson, in the Garson Kanin comedy which launched Judy Holliday's career. Royal Exchange (061 533 9833). Preview Wed. Opens Thurs.

SHERINGHAM: Born in the Gardens: The last weekly summer rep in the country begins its 10-week season with Peter Nichols's black comedy. Little Theatre (0263 822347). Opens Thurs.

CONCERTS

THE WINNERS: The Rosamunde Quartet of Paris play Mozart's *Quartet K 458*, Faure and Debussy. Wigmore Hall, 38 Wigmore St, London W1 (01-935 2141). Today, 7.30pm.

LARROCHA RECITAL: Alicia de Larrocha performs Schumann's *Carnaval*, Granados's *Goyescas*, Falla's *Fantasia Baccata*. Barbican Centre, Silk St, London EC2 (01-638 8891). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

BREVIN'S CONCERTO: Vladimir Ashkenazy solos in André Previn's Piano Concerto with the RPO conducted by the composer. Royal Festival Hall, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24

FRIS: (a) The German for double F sharp, French F double-flat, Italian doppio diesis.

CATINATA: (a) An aria in only one section instead of an aria's three sections, often interpolated as a relief in a long stretch of recitative, used by Mozart.

KLINGSOR: (b) The musician in *Porgy and Bess* who the Sacred Spirit can be recovered only by a Pure Fool made wise through play.

MARACAS: (c) Dances and instruments made from the dried shells of Canebea pods with beans or beads inside, and handles with which to shake them rhythmically (or not); modern plastic maracas with lead shot inside produce a stronger effect (i.e. a louder and noisier noise).

ROCK

MATHILDE SANTING: Dutch chanteuse accompanied by the Japanese pianist, Izumi Kobayashi. Shaw Theatre, London NW1 (01-388 1394), Mon for six nights.

RON WOOD & BO DIDDLEY: On and off, have been touring as a duo, on their own and with the Stones and the Faces used to do it. Tues, Astoria, London WC2 (01-437 1801); Wed, Rock City, Nottingham (0802 412544).

GEORGIA SATELLITES: Promoting *Open All Night*, a blistering new album of good-time R'n'B, played the way it should be. Tues, Astoria, London WC2 (01-437 1801); Wed, Rock City, Nottingham (0802 412544).

DAVID BOWIE: The pale one makes a brief appearance with Monty Python's *La La La* in the title role. Last chances to see a strong *Macbeth* tonight at 7.30pm. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

GLYNDEBOURNE FESTIVAL: *Falstaff* enters this week in a new production by Peter Hall as part of Glyndebourne's continuing Verdi series on Wed and Fri at 5.30pm. Tonight at 5.40pm *Die Entführung*; last performance of *The Elucidation of the Soviet Union* tomorrow at 5.20pm; and on Tues and Thurs last two performances of *Kata Kabanova*. Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex (0273 541111).

FILMS

HAIRSPRAY (PG): Nutty comedy from director John Waters. America's high priest of bad taste, poking fun at the social habits of Baltimore teenagers in 1962. With Divine (his last film), Sonny Bono, Ricki Lake, Debbie Harry. Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527). Screen on the Green (01-226 3520), from Fri.

DEADLY PURSUIT (15): Sidney Poitier returns to the screen after a decade's absence as an FBI veteran teamed with a backwoodsman (Tom Berenger) in the pursuit of a murderous villain. Old hat material, vividly shot in the Pacific north-west; directed by Roger Spottiswoode. Warner West End (01-439 0791), from Fri.

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● As the superb *Heimat* begins a re-run on BBC2 (see facing page), Channel 4 comes up with *Fathers and Sons*, another German series which uses a family saga to explore that country's troubled history during the 20th century. Burt Lancaster (above) and Julie Christie are among an international cast in the story of two industrial dynasties between 1911 and the end of the Second World War. Channel 4, Thursday, 9-11.35pm.

HOLY MATRIMONY (1943): Monty Woolley as a painter who takes on the identity of his valet and marries Grace Fields in a likeable Hollywood version of the Arnold Bennett story. Channel 4, Mon, 2-3.40pm.

THE BAD NEWS BEARS (1976): Walter Matthau in joyous comic form as a drunken baseball coach trying to fashion a team out of a gang of unruly kids. BBC1, Fri, 11.50pm-1.30am.

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GLORY ENOUGH FOR ALL: Four-part mini series from Canada about the discovery, 67 years ago, of insulin and the winning of Canada's first Nobel Prize. ITV, Tues, 9-10pm and 10.35-11.35pm, and same times on Wed.

THE FLYING DOCTORS: Medical soap from Australia in which none of the characters is called either Charlene or Bruce. BBC1, Fri, 8-10.30pm.

NEW SCULPTURE 88: Works by six artists, including John Newling and Amanda Benson, selected from an open submission which attracted 550 entries. Ikon Gallery, Birmingham (021 643 0708). From today.

JOHN PIPER: Landscape and architectural prints. Oxford Gallery, Oxford (0865 242731). From Mon.

ED RUSCHA: Recent works by an influential Californian Pop artist. Karsten Schubert, London W1 (01-631 0031). From Tues.

THE EXPERIENCE OF LANDSCAPE: 20th-century paintings, drawings and photographs of British countryside from Bomberg to Fay Godwin. Festival Hall, London SE1 (01-928 3022). From Wed.

MICHAEL PORTER: Recent landscapes called Derbyshire Wood Paintings. Fabian Carlsson Gallery, London W1 (01-409 0619). From Fri.

THOMAS GAINSBROUGH (1727-1788): A show about the portrait and landscape painter's Bath period between 1759 and 1774. Holburne Museum, Bath (0225 66669).

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RADIO

THE WIDE-BRIMMED HAT: Michael Wall's play, for which Edward Petherbridge won the Sony award for best actor, is among several prize-winning programmes being repeated on Radio 4. Radio 4, Mon, 8.15-9.45pm.



● The social history of the 20th century as reflected in popular songs is the theme of Bob Sinfield's six-part series, *The Sounds of Time*. For his evidence he draws on such diverse performers as Vera Lynn, Tom Lehrer, Flanders and Swann and Fascinating Aida. In his first programme he looks at the Edwardian era through songs from the great music hall artists, Marie Lloyd (above) and Gus Elen. Radio 2, Tuesday, 9-9.55pm.

DANCE

JANET SMITH: Final performances by this small company, forced to close for financial reasons. Smith's highly successful tragicomic Lowry ballet, *Another Man Drowning*, joins other recent productions for the farewell programme. Open Air Theatre, Holland Park (01-602 7856), Thurs-July 2.

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET: Two performances today of Lynn Seymour's new *Ballet*, with Brintley's *Flowers of the Forest* and Macmillan's *Elite Synchronisms*. Hippodrome, Birmingham (021 622 7486).

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HYMNS: New work by Royal Ballet choreographer Jonathan Burrows. The Place, London WC1 (01-387 0031), tonight at 8.

JOHN MCLAUGHLIN: Trio recitals with percussionist Trilok Gurtu and bass player Jeff Berlin. Manchester Odeon Cinema (061 2387581) Mon: Irish Centre, Leeds (0532 742486) Tues; Glasgow Jazz Festival, Pavilion Theatre (041 226 3262) Wed; Festival Hall, London SE1 (01-928 3191) Thurs.

OSCAR PETERSON: The pianist's trio includes the ever-reliable Martin Drew. Glasgow Jazz Festival, Theatre Royal (041 226 3262) tomorrow; St David's Hall, Cardiff (0222 371236) Tues.

RAY CHARLES: With his orchestra and the Raelites in attendance. Glasgow Jazz Festival, SECC (041 226 3262) Tues; Royal Festival Hall, London SE1 (01-928 3191) Wed.

NORMAN PARKINSON - 75TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION: Classical and delicious elegance spiced with charm and wit from a master of fashion photography. National Museum of Photography, Prince's View, Bradford (0274 727488) from June 28.

THEATRE: Tony Patrick: Films: Geoff Brown; Concerts: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Fynn; Rock: David Sinclair; Jazz: Clive Davis; Dance: John Percival; Galleries: David Lee; Photography: Mike Newing; Television: Peter Waymark; Films on TV: Peter Waymark; Bookings: Anne Whitehouse.

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TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Tony Patrick

SUNDAY

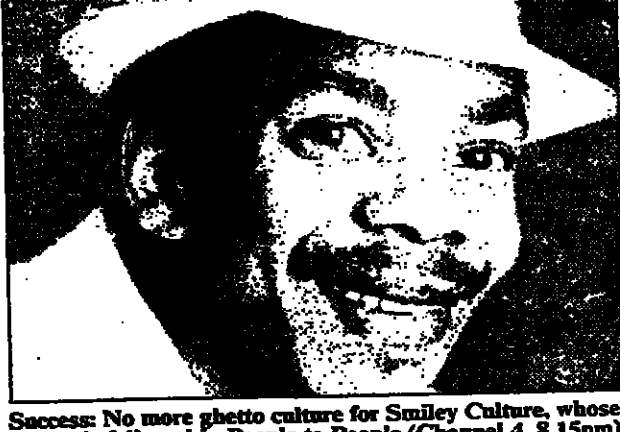
SATURDAY

Though it has been shown in the cinema, Edgar Reitz's *Heimat* (BBC2, 10.10pm) was made for television, and brilliantly exploits the power of cumulative effect that television uniquely offers. While any one of its 11 episodes is a substantial drama in itself, the enterprise builds into much more than the sum of those parts. Its impact is similar to that of one of those huge Victorian novels, which, like *Heimat*, were issued in 60 parts. The story covers 60 years and uses a fictitious village in the Hunsrück to reflect and illuminate a theme of epic proportions — no less than the history of Germany

CHOICE

in the 20th century. But amid the flurry of great events Reitz never loses sight of the human element. At the heart of the series is the meticulous depiction of village and family life. There are many good performances and one extraordinary one, from Maria Breuer as the pivotal character of Maria, who spans the entire saga. *Heimat* is one of the few pieces of original television made anywhere which can carry the description of masterpiece.

Peter Waymark

An extraordinary performance: Maria Breuer plays Maria, pivotal character in the epic film *Heimat* (BBC2 10.10pm)Success: No more ghetto culture for Smiley Culture, whose career is followed in *People to People* (Channel 4, 8.15pm)

CHOICE

Opening on the unlovely landscapes of Deptford, Peckham and Lewisham, *People to People* (Channel 4, 8.15pm) is a film by young black musicians in south London on the state of their art. To judge from the ample performance footage in the programme, the art is flourishing. Soul and reggae groups are developing a specifically British idiom instead of merely harking back to their Afro-Caribbean roots and there is no lack of talent. One or two artists (Smiley Culture, Courtney Pine) have broken through to commercial

success, but on the whole the music industry remains lukewarm. Not all of these young performers, however, crave the accolade of a recording contract and a place in the charts. Others argue for keeping deliberately clear of the commercial mainstream and the compromises it seeks to impose. For them the answer is black recording studios, independent labels and exposure on the pirate radio stations, even though this would seem to consign them to a ghetto culture. This is a polished and intelligent job, and it does not shut controversy.

P.W.

BBC1

- 6.45 Open University.
6.55 *Robbers* (r). 8.30 *The Family* (r). 8.35 *The Muppet Babies*.
9.00 *On the Waterfront*. The guests include John Craven 10.55
Augusta. Cartoon
11.00 *Film Wings in the Wilderness* (1975). An award-winning documentary about a man who raises three geese on a Canadian nature reserve and teaches them to fly. Directed by Robert Ryan 12.57 *Westward*.
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EEC deal to limit farm surpluses

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

An end to the EEC farm surpluses, which have cost taxpayers and consumers billions of pounds, appears to be in sight after an agreement reached in Luxembourg yesterday.

For the first time the governments of all 12 member countries have agreed on cash limits that will effectively restrict the open-ended guarantee payments for a range of commodities. There will also be less money for holding surpluses in intervention storage and subsidizing their disposal to third countries.

Although the National Farmers' Union said it was disappointed that Britain had been unable to secure a larger devaluation of the so-called green pound, and said the package would do little to arrest the continuing decline in farm incomes, the general mood within the industry was one of resigned acceptance.

Most farmers had already come to terms with the need for reform of EEC spending. Moreover, for grain producers at least, there is a distinct prospect of more buoyant market prices if the continuing drought in North America has a serious effect on the harvest.

Mr John MacGregor, Minister of Agriculture, said yesterday that the agreement fulfilled all the budgetary requirements stipulated by the last EEC summit meeting and was in line with the determination expressed by world leaders meeting in Toronto this week to reduce agricultural subsidies.

Its effect on food prices would be "infinitesimal", an estimated rise of 0.04 per cent in the retail price index. It was a good deal for farmers and consumers.

Its importance lay in the fact that it represented a complete change of policy, by setting absolute limits on spending, as demanded by Mr Frans Andriessen, the EEC agriculture commissioner.

The budget would no longer be based on assumptions

about future world market prices, which might or might not reduce the need for subsidies.

It was, he said, a "tough settlement", especially for Mediterranean produce such as fruit and vegetables, wine and tobacco, which did not affect British farmers. Many countries had been forced to settle for much less than that for which they had been aiming.

The 3.2 per cent devaluation of the green pound was higher than for any other country except Greece, and twice as large as for France and the Republic of Ireland, Britain's two main competitors.

He estimated that it would increase British farmers' incomes by £120 million next year.

There had been a strong improvement in Britain's competitive position in the past 16 months. It was essential that the present system of green currencies, and the so-called monetary compensatory amounts (MCAs) which act as cross-border taxes, be dismantled by 1992 when the single market came into being.

The settlement was not without its political critics, among them Mr Teddy Taylor, Conservative MP for Southend East, and a long time opponent of the EEC, who said that talk about a price freeze was "a nasty, bad joke. By adjusting the artificial mechanism of the green pound, there is no price freeze at all."

Mr George Foulkes, Labour foreign affairs spokesman, said the adjustment of the green pound rate "looks like a conjuring trick which will fool no one."

Mr Simon Gourlay, president of the NFU, said the green pound devaluation would do little to help incomes this year, and would still leave producers at a severe competitive disadvantage.

Comecon deal, page 6

Grim reminders of war in Flanders



M. Gautier, the grave-digger, in front of the cross-studded poplar near Esquelbecq which marks the site of the massacre. Right, the photograph unearthed after 40 years, which is believed to show the aftermath of the 1940 massacre and, below, the memorial that now stands near the spot where the soldiers died.

Pressure grows to make SS officer stand trial

By David Nicholson-Lord

Blink as you drive through the red-roofed pastures of Flanders and you might well miss Wormhout. It has a church, a square, a *mairie* and not much else — an unexceptional place where the speech is as flat as the land. But on May 28, 1940, it became, briefly and awfully, exceptional.

The place that made it a small footnote in history is now much altered. Down a winding lane to Esquelbecq the last of a line of poplars bears a clatch of small wooden crosses.

The poplar marks the site of a barn where 80 unarmed British prisoners-of-war, captured as Hitler's Panzer divisions raced to Dunkirk, were herded together, had grenades thrown at them before being machine-gunned. About a dozen survived.

The photograph above, believed to depict some of the British victims of the massacre, is a German document

developed by a Wormhout photographer, M. Charles Patoot. The forgotten negative turned up by accident when M. Patoot cleared out a drawer almost 40 years later. It is thought to be the first time it has appeared in a British newspaper.

Events such as Wormhout were not unknown in the flatlands of Flanders on the eve of Dunkirk. On the previous day, May 27, 98 men from the Royal Norfolk Regiment were summarily executed at nearby Le Paradis. The alleged culprits in both cases were SS regiments — at Wormhout, the *Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler*, at Le Paradis, the *Totenkopf*.

The difference was that the commander of the *Totenkopf* unit, Fritz Knackstein, was tried in Hamburg and hanged in 1949. The commander of the Second Battalion of the *Leibstandarte* on May 28, former SS General Wilhelm Mohnke, now living in prosperous retirement near Ham-

burg, has never faced charges. Government files on the wartime investigation into the case against General Mohnke, who has denied responsibility, are being re-examined to see if a prosecution is justified. However, representatives of the five living British survivors, whose case has been taken up by Sir David Napley, believe it may be possible to solve problems of extradition by reconvening the Nuremberg tribunal in Berlin.

According to Mr Ian Sayer, a trustee, with the Labour MP, Mr Jeff Rooker, of the Wormhout Survivors' Fund, and publisher of the magazine *World War II Investigator*, the two other Allied powers which exercise jurisdiction in West Berlin both have a stake in seeing charges brought against General Mohnke: the US because he is allegedly implicated in the massacre at Malmédy in the Ardennes in 1944 of 72 American

prisoners of war; and France because two of the three alleged incidents in which prima-facie cases against General Mohnke were established by Allied war crimes officials took place on French soil. A third incident allegedly involved the death of three Canadian prisoners in 1944. The public prosecutor in Lübeck has also agreed to review the West German investigations into General Mohnke.

Should pressure bring him to court the memories of the villagers will be vital. There is M. Georges Gautier, ordered over a year later to inter the dead. He found 36 corpses covered lightly with soil. "They were buried like animals," he says. Judge Tom Field-Fisher, QC, who helped convict the Le Paradis culprit, believes the case against General Mohnke should go ahead. "If there are still survivors," he told *The Times*, "there is no conceivable reason why the man should not be prosecuted."

Church attack on Tory policies

Continued from page 1

reigns supreme and always flows in compassion. In a Britain which has never been so rich as today, we see far too little justice resulting in far too little compassion."

Mr Jones was scornful of the assumption that increased wealth for the wealthy would automatically benefit the poor, adapting the New Testament parable of the rich man, Dives, who ate heartily while the poor man, Lazarus, starved at the gate, waiting for crumbs from the rich man's table.

This assumption, which he called the "trickle down theory", amounted to saying that "opulent" Mr Dives, accustomed as he is to having huge meals and mighty banquets, ought to be paid more and more. Then he will have bigger and bigger banquets, and there are bound to be more crumbs falling from his table, and more waste food in his ever-bigger dustbin.

"Lazarus at his gate is bound, then, to be better off: it stands to common sense," Mr Jones said. "Anyone who has absorbed the Old and New Testament will see that for what it is worth: a scandalous attempt to put a veneer of respectability over hurtful social injustice."

The report by the church's home mission division concludes: "We reach a point where it must be noted that the direction in which we as a country are moving must surely call for Christian protest. There is a tendency for the rich to become richer and the poor to become poorer."

It describes resources allocated to the National Health Service as "inadequate to fund the expansion made necessary by the increasing needs of the elderly and developments in medical technology." The service suffered from being manipulated "by politicians and medical factions".

However, Mr John Redwood, Conservative MP for Worthingham, a former head of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's policy unit, accused Mr Jones of "going over the top" in his attack, which he said was "a desperate attempt to get into the news and limelight."

He said the church was causing unhappiness to many Christians with its shrill attacks on the Government. "I don't like to see the church pitted against the state and I don't think it helps the church to be pulling apart the loyalties of a lot of citizens who admire what the Government is doing and wish to be loyal Christians."

Clowes 'danger signs'

Continued from page 1

Clowes which started in late November last year. But the fact of the investigation was never made public and investors were placing money with Barlow Clowes until April this year.

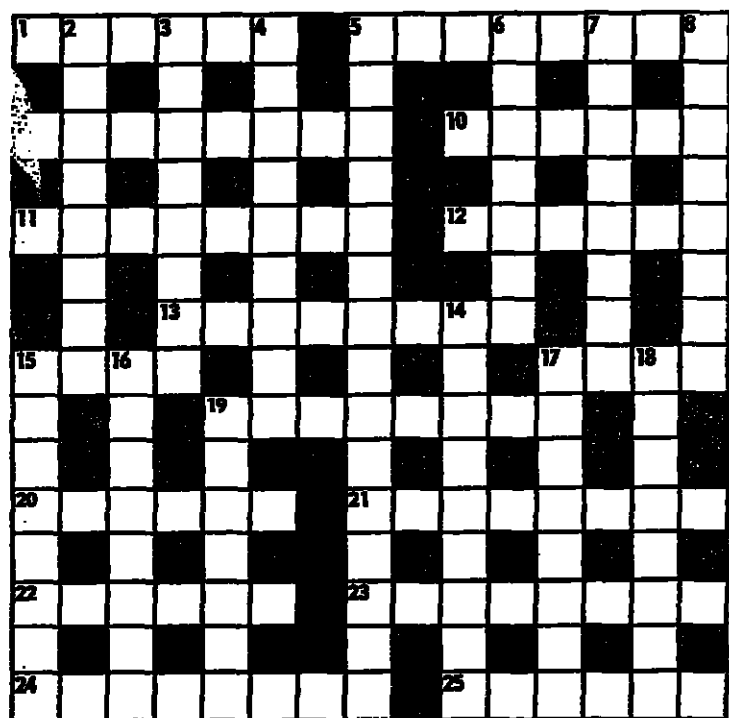
Official moves to close down Barlow Clowes started last month.

The disclosure of a police

investigation into Barlow Clowes is likely to fuel the controversy over the way the DTI, the government department responsible for vetting and monitoring Barlow Clowes, carried out its duties.

Lord Young, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has ordered an independent inquiry into his Department's handling of the affair.

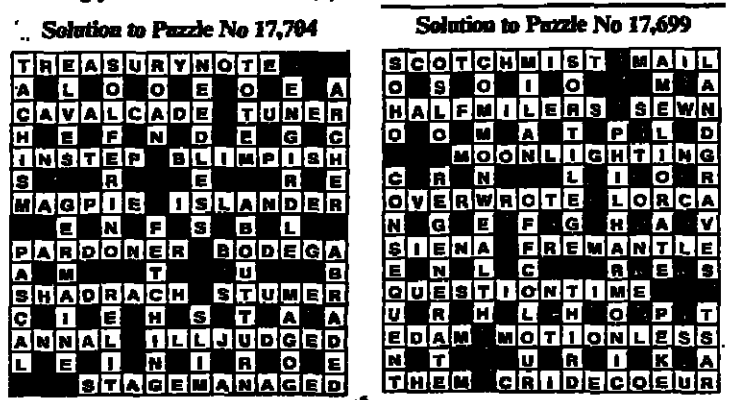
THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,705



- ACROSS**
- Warning Lord Verulam about starting "Essays" (6).
 - Idle creature on the other side (4,4).
 - The people available to plough, reap 'n' mow (8).
 - Make a mistake in quotation about the Upper House (6).
 - Publish the record that has to be beaten (8).
 - Flower's cry echoed by it (6).
 - Bent copper's lead a number refuse to accept (8).
 - Sue leads pupils running after you (4).
 - Join everybody in the lead to July 4th (4).
 - Used by Peter Wimsey, sagely, to move from point to point (8).
 - World covered by solid ice (6).
 - Settled quarrel indeed! (8).
 - Cut order (6).
 - "We can't know" he says, "what makes acting so funny" (8).
 - In general, stock of cards is much less (3,5).
 - Long yarn about retirement (6).

- DOWN**
- One of enquiring nature, formerly a collier (8).
 - A business centre has better, superior position (8).
 - Modern artist established near Dungeness (3,6).
 - Event for Maxmum? (5-6,4).
 - Dishonesty shown up in American Revolution (7).
 - In fine fettle, I agree (4,4).
 - Turning corrupt, a politician (8).
 - One who can sing very loudly in church after tea (9).
 - Ingots about to become waste (8).
 - Certify doctor has left democratic organization (8).
 - Booth, for instance, has two animals inside (8).
 - Sole means of communication left to one cat (8).
 - English sailors wearing duck that never wears out (7).

Cousine crossword, page 21



WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

MUSICAL NOTES

By Philip Howard

FISIS
a. A French soprano
b. Double sharp
c. The second violins

CAVATINA
a. A short aria
b. A prima donna
c. A Cretan composer

KLINGSOR
a. A Swedish tenor
b. A wicked magician
c. A spit-remover for a bassoon

MARCAS
a. A Hungarian composer
b. An opera by Puccini
c. Harmonious rattles

Answers on page 22, column 1

SHEAFFER.

A prize of a distinctive Sheaffer "Targa" Agency Stripe fountain pen with a solid 14-carat gold nib will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: E. B. Murphy, Crompton Road, Wimbledon, S. Cullen, Almond Avenue, Ricca, Newport, Gwent; M. Smith, Benwell Hill Road, Newcastle upon Tyne; D. Sinclair, Henderson Drive, Westhill, Aberdeen; S. J. Davies, St John's Rd, Redhill, Surrey.

Name _____

Address _____

WEATHER

Scotland will be dry apart from light rain or drizzle in the south-west. Sunny spells in the north with cloud later in the far north-west. Northern Ireland and northern England will be mostly cloudy with some light rain. Sunny periods in Wales, western England and the Channel Islands, with isolated showers. East Anglia and the south-east will be cloudy, rather cool, but mostly dry with bright spells in eastern regions. Outlook: mostly dry, sunny spells, cloudy in far north.

ABROAD

MONDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; lg=log; s=sun; si=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain						Sun	Rain	C	Max	
Aleppo	22	82	F	Madrid	23	73	F		66	sunny
Algiers	27	81	F	Malta	23	73	F		70	cloudy
Amman	27	81	F	Meerut	13	55	C		15	59
Amman	15	59	F	Mexico C	18	64	C		17	63
Amman	15	59	F	Mexico S	18	64	C		17	63
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SATURDAY JUNE 25 1988

MARKETS	THE POUND
FT 30 Share 1494.9 (-1.8)	US dollar 1.7265 (-0.0310)
FT-SE 100 1871.3 (-7.6)	W German mark 3.1327 (-0.0044)
USM (Datastream) 161.25 (+0.47)	Trade-weighted 75.8 (-0.3)

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Societies' lending sets record

Building societies lent more money for house purchases in May than in any month previously. They loaned £4.4 billion, the second time mortgage lending has passed £4 billion in the past three months, according to figures released by the Building Societies Association yesterday.

The inflow of savings also continued at a record level. Net receipts — deposits minus withdrawals — amounted to £1.4 billion, a record for May and the third highest ever. Net receipts have passed £1 billion for four months in a row.

Figures for the first five months of 1988 contrast sharply with last year when net receipts fell to record lows. Societies attracted just over £500 million last May and in September net receipts slipped to under £200 million. The stock market crash reversed the societies' fortunes and net receipts passed £1 billion in November and December.

Building societies have clawed back savings which flowed out to unit trusts in the last months of the bull market. Unit Trust Association figures released this week showed that £9.5 million more cash was withdrawn from the industry in May than invested.

SI trims loss
SI Group, the drink-dispenser manufacturer, shows a pre-tax profit of £328,000 for 1987 against a previous £372,000 deficit, despite a small trading profit in the second half.

STOCK MARKETS	
New York	Dow Jones 2145.09 (-3.20)
Tokyo	Nikkei Average 27750.39 (+17.48)
Hong Kong	Hang Seng 2707.56 (-4.68)
Amsterdam	Gen 263.3 (+0.5)
Sydney	AO 1573.0 (-2.7)
Frankfurt	DAX 1439.8 (-7.8)
Brussels	General 5006.3 (-5.2)
Paris	CAC 1057.09 (-1.9)
Zurich	SKA Gen 417.8 (-0.4)
London	FT-30 Share 1494.9 (-1.8)
FT-100	1871.3 (-7.6)
FT-A	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-B	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-C	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-D	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-E	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-F	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-G	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-H	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-I	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-J	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-K	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-L	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-M	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-N	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-O	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-P	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-Q	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-R	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-S	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-T	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-U	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-V	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-W	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-X	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-Y	1057.09 (-1.9)
FT-Z	1057.09 (-1.9)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES	
RISER:	Harrison Cros 837.5p (+10p)
	S Miller 224.5p (+25p)
	Int Thomson 675p (+20p)
	WPP 585p (+12p)
	AC 437.5p (+13p)
	Henderson Agn 580p (+10p)
	Ranger 349.5p (+12p)
	ERF 427.5p (+20p)
	Securitor A 345p (+16p)
	Jones Street 185p (+10p)
	Hardanger 750p (+10p)
FALLS:	Reuters 535p (-10p)
	General Accident 890p (-18p)
	GR 185p (-10p)
	Savoy Hotels A 900p (-30p)
	GR 705p (-10p)
Closing prices	24735

INTEREST RATES	
London Bank Base:	9%
3-month interbank:	9.9%
3-month eligible bills:	9.8%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate:	9%
Federal Funds:	7.75%
3-month Treasury Bills:	6.51-6.50%
30-year bonds:	10.21-10.21%

CURRENCIES	
London:	New York:
£/\$ 1.7265	£/\$ 1.7330
£/DM 1.5558	£/DM 1.5673
£/FF 110.544	£/FF 110.544
£/Yen 155.22	£/Yen 155.22
£/Ind 75.8	£/Ind 75.8
£/ECU 10.663509	£/ECU 10.663509

GOLD	
London Fixing:	AM \$447.00 PM \$443.25
close \$443.50-444.00	(2255.50-2550.00)
New York:	Comex \$440.80-441.30*

NORTH SEA OIL	
Brent (Aug.)	pm \$15.4500 (\$15.47)
* Denotes latest trading price	

THE TIMES STOCK WATCH	
0898 141 141	
● Market news on Stock-watch yesterday included:	
Stanley Miller (02214) rose 21p on speculation;	
Ashley Industrial Trust (02288) rose 10p on asset injection hopes; revived bid speculation put 12p on Rotork (02528).	
● Recent additions include:	
Appleby Westward 03173.	
Shant Group 02932	
Drayton Far East Investment Trust 03174	
Needler Group (03194).	
● Calls charged at 5p for 8 seconds peak and 12 seconds off peak inc. VAT.	
● Details, page 32	

Fimbra closes second Barlow Clowes broker

By Lawrence Lever

Fimbra, the watchdog for financial intermediaries, yesterday suspended a second financial advisory firm which had recommended thousands of investors to put their money into Barlow Clowes, the crashed investment group.

Fimbra issued a suspension order against DC Wilson & Partners Ltd, a Manchester company with close links to Barlow Clowes.

The order, under rule 17, ordered DC Wilson not to conduct or solicit any investment business and not to dispose of any of its assets except with Fimbra's permission.

DC Wilson is the second financial intermediary involved in the Barlow Clowes affair to be suspended.

Last week, Fimbra suspended the Investment and Pensions Advisory Service, a Surrey group which is estimated to have placed up to £40 million of investors' money with Barlow Clowes.

Several other financial intermediaries are still under investigation by Fimbra and more are expected to be suspended.

DC Wilson placed millions of pounds of investors' money with Barlow Clowes. It is run by Mr Denis Wilson, who has been operating his company for about 25 years in the Manchester area.

A meeting of investors who put money in Barlow Clowes via DC Wilson had already been called before the suspension order. The meeting is to be held at Stockport town hall next week.

At 6pm yesterday the shopfront premises of DC Wilson were deserted and the lights switched off. The shop had been open all day and closed as normal at 5.30pm.

Mr Wilson is known to have close links with Barlow Clowes. His son, Michael, worked at Barlow Clowes headquarters at Poynton, Cheshire, before joining his father at DC Wilson.

The Times revealed last week that Mr Wilson was a director of a Gibraltar company with another intermediary prominent in the Barlow Clowes affair. This company, Temple Bar Investments, operated as an investment adviser with Barlow Clowes, recommending a range of investment products to expatriates.

However, the operation was not a success and Mr Wilson resigned as a director of Temple Bar in September after almost two years on the board. Shortly after his resignation £5 million of investors' money from Barlow Clowes, passed through Temple Bar into accounts with three stockbrokers. Temple Bar has no connection whatsoever with the British investment trust of the same name.

● Lawyers acting for Barlow Clowes investors are attempting to encourage the formation of groups of investors who have lost money. The aim is to pool resources to fund further investigation and to seek some recompense.

Mr Ken Foreman, the chairman, said the group has £15 million of prospective purchases planned in Britain and Mr Jack Casagrande, the US chief executive, plans more.

The open offer invites shareholders to apply on the basis of seven preference shares for every 10 ordinary shares. On full conversion the ordinary share capital would increase by 11,339,610 shares or 16.4 per cent of the enlarged equity. The coupon on the convertible preference shares is 8½ per cent and they are convertible between 1991 and 2003 at 357p per share.

Buckley's shares put up for sale
By Joe Joseph

A 53 per cent shareholding in Buckley's Brewery, owned by Mr Peter Clowes and Mr Guy von Cramer but held by Singer & Friedlander as security against a loan, is being put up for sale by tender. The merchant bank lent the money to the two businessmen when they took over Buckley's last September for £29 million.

Mr Anthony Solomons, chairman of S&F, said last night he was inviting offers for the 8.47 million Buckley's shares because "we had lent on the security of them and the loan is in default". The stake is likely to be bought by a single purchaser, automatically triggering a takeover bid.

Mr Solomons said S&F had already received several inquiries about the shareholding, mostly from professional advisers acting on behalf of unnamed clients, and hoped to finalize a deal within seven or eight weeks.

Mr Solomons said he did not know how much of the 53 per cent stake was held by Mr Clowes, a former director of Buckley's and how much by Mr von Cramer, the Welsh brewery's deputy chairman, since the shares were held in an account under joint names.

He said the bank's first task was "to get a lot of detailed information from Buckley's so that we have a comprehensive document and then we will advertise for tenders".

"How long it all takes depends entirely on when Buckley's provides us with the information we need."

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Crash report 'favourable'
By Our Economics Correspondent

Department of Trade and Industry officials have been investigating the performance of the London stock market during October's stock market crash. But officials from the DTI, the Treasury and the Bank of England denied reports that the results of the investigation had been suppressed because they criticized the way the system had coped.

The DTI team has been interviewing City firms, market officials, regulators in London and foreign financial centres, as well as users of the financial markets.

A spokesman for the DTI said the results of the investigation were never intended for publication and much of the internal document contained evidence given in confidence.

The document's conclusions, far from criticizing the way London coped, appear to have been generally favourable, and many have already appeared in ministerial statements and speeches.

The main recommendations of the document are that the London markets should co-operate more closely with one another, that the adoption of "circuit breakers" to limit sharp market movements would not be appropriate in London and that, unlike in America, computer-aided trading techniques have not become important enough to have contributed to the crash.

In line with most other analyses of the crash, the DTI's document is said to have identified concern over the state of the world economy as the immediate cause of the crash. And, like the Bank of England, it found that market-making systems generally worked well.

Hoare Govett, the broker, and attended by representatives of City institutions — collectively holding 10 per cent of Cadbury's equity.

Mr Cadbury, yesterday reacted to Rowntree's fall by saying: "The situation has not changed so far as we are concerned, but if anyone does make a hostile bid for us, they will find us ready and waiting to fight."

Nestlé decisively clinched the Rowntree deal at noon when Suchard decided it would not out-bid its 1075p cash offer, and would instead sell its holding to Nestlé.

The holding, equivalent to 64.2 million shares, together with Nestlé's own stake gave Nestlé 50.76 per cent.

Nestlé, in sight of victory after the Rowntree board's recommendation on Thursday night, was early yesterday still buying shares to secure its position, picking up an additional 3.75 million.

When the formal contract notes for these latest transactions are processed, Nestlé will declare its bid unconditional.

Mr Steven Burkeman, secretary of the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and holder of 2.9 per cent of Rowntree's equity, said the trust would carefully study the financial and non-financial aspects of the formal offer document, with a particular eye to the bidder's behaviour.

Mr Kenneth Dixon, the Rowntree chairman, who held talks with both Swiss bidders before the decision to recommend Nestlé, last night welcomed the sale of the Suchard holding to Nestlé.

Rowntree's defence costs are expected to be "substantial" — very probably involving millions of pounds.

Rowntree shares eased from 1076p to 1064p. In mid-April, before the bid, they stood at 480p. Last November, Rowntree shares were traded at 380p each.



Sweeping plans: Ken Foreman with director Frank Silvester (left) and Jack Casagrande.

Attwoods to raise £39.3m

By Alexandra Jackson

Attwoods, the waste disposal group, is raising £39.3 million net of expenses by way of a placing and open offer of redeemable convertible preference shares.

The money will be used to eliminate borrowings of £41 million and enable Attwoods to step up its acquisition plans at home and in the US.

Mr Ken Foreman, the chairman, said the group has £15 million of prospective purchases planned in Britain and Mr Jack Casagrande, the US chief executive, plans more.

The US is currently the largest source of earnings. Attwoods made pre-tax profits of £11.9 million in the year to July 1987. Analysts expect £16 million profit and 20p earnings per share on fully-diluted earnings this year.

The open offer invites shareholders to apply on the basis of seven preference shares for every 10 ordinary shares. On full conversion the ordinary share capital would increase by 11,339,610 shares or 16.4 per cent of the enlarged equity. The coupon on the convertible preference shares is 8½ per cent and they are convertible between 1991 and 2003 at 357p per share.

The pound fell by 3.1 cents to \$1.7265, for a drop of six cents on the week. It also slipped by half a penny to DM3.1327. The sterling index dropped by 0.3 points to 75.8.

The dollar broke through the important chart points of Y130 and DM1.80, with the markets taking heart from the fact that the Group of Seven appears content to live with a stronger dollar and no serious effort has been made to restrain it.

It closed nearly three pence up at DM1.8145 and also rose strongly against the yen, moving up from Y128.60 to Y130.45.

● A piece of history was enacted yesterday when the Bank of England announced the redemption of the remaining £41 million of the stock Redemption 3 per cent 1986-1996. The stock was issued in 1937 as a consequence of the act of Parliament which ended the system of tithes for clergy. Instead of tithes, they received the dividends on the government stock.

Mr Poggate, Mr Grob and Mr Carpenter are accused of conspiracy to defraud Howden and its associates and subsidiaries, by falsely representing that a group of purchasers from a Swiss bank was independent of the Howden group.

Mr Grob is further charged with stealing £1.135 million from members of Lloyd's syndicates in 1981.

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Marine, aviation and motor syndicates.

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By Our City Staff

A hearing to commit four former leading figures at Lloyd's for trial on multi-million pound fraud charges was abandoned after two weeks, when the magistrate declared an interest in the case.

The four, Mr Kenneth Grob, former head of the Alexander Howden group, Mr Jack Carpenter, ex-deputy chairman, and former underwriters Mr Ian Poggate and Mr Colin Hart, are accused of a reinsurance fraud.

The committal hearing came to halt when Mrs Ann Mallinson, the Guildhall magistrate, revealed on the 10th day of the proceedings that her husband was a member of Lloyd's. Her announcement means the hearing must restart in front of a new magistrate on Monday.

Mrs Mallinson, an experienced City magistrate, was hearing the case which involved seven leading counsel, their juniors and solicitors.

Her husband Terence is a timber importer and director of the Town and Country Building Society.

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Sterling fall puts pressure on rates

By David Smith

Economics Correspondent
Another rise in base rates in Britain moved closer yesterday, as sterling slumped against the dollar and slipped against other currencies.

Dealers believe that unless the May trade figures, to be published on Monday, are exceptionally good, base rates will go up again next week.

This would be the fourth increase in four weeks and would almost certainly bring about a general increase in mortgage rates.

A half-point rise in base rates next week looks "inevitable," said Mr Keith Skoosh, economist at James Capel, the broker.

Mr Neil Mackinnon, economist at Nomura Research Institute in London, said a full percentage point rise in rates could not be ruled out. This would take base rates to 10 per cent from the 9 per cent level established only last Wednesday.

The pound's fall yesterday was mainly a consequence of dollar strength, but dealers said worries over the trade figures on Monday had independently produced sterling weakness.

The pound fell by 3.1 cents to \$1.7265, for a drop of six cents on the week. It also slipped by half a penny to DM3.1327. The sterling index dropped by 0.3 points to 75.8.

The dollar broke through the important chart points of Y130 and DM1.80, with the markets taking heart from the fact that the Group of Seven appears content to live with a stronger dollar and no serious effort has been made to restrain it.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

£300m North Sea gas projects are approved

Development plans worth a total of more than £300 million for three new North Sea gas fields and a project to lift additional supplies from an existing field were announced yesterday. The new fields are Britoli's East and West Amethyst and Phillips's Della field, all in the southern North Sea. The additional project is on Amoco's East Leman gas field.

These planned projects bring the total number approved so far this year to 14, compared with 13 throughout the whole of 1987. Mr Peter Morrison, the Minister of State for Energy, said: "It is a measure of the confidence that operators have in the North Sea that I have been asked to approve no fewer than five new gas projects this month."

Beckenham up threefold

Beckenham Group, the air conditioning equipment company, which is quoted on the Third Market, nearly trebled its profits from £185,000 to £517,000 in the six months to April 30, on turnover 412 per cent higher at £13.19 million. An interim dividend of 1p is to be paid, against an adjusted 0.6p for last year's first half.

Electronic Data caution

A note of caution was sounded by Electronic Data Processing, the computer distributor, despite pre-tax profits for the six months to end-March 20 per cent higher at £615,000. The half-way dividend is held at 0.65p. The stock market crash has led to some slowing down in orders for the group's main product.

Racal opens shop

Racal Electronics is opening the first in a chain of shops selling mobile communications equipment in Swindon, Wiltshire. It is wholly owned by Racal and will be used to develop a partnership franchise scheme.

Racal said a chain of up to 100 such "VodaShops" was planned over the next five years. They will sell facsimile machines, telephone answering machines and related equipment, plus Racal's mobile phones and radios. Racal plans to float off its telecommunications division, including the Vodafone business, and details are due on Tuesday, along with the company's annual results.

Profits soar at AF Bulgin

AF Bulgin, the electronic components manufacturer, reports pre-tax profits for the year to end-March almost trebled to £712,000, against £247,000, helped by better margins and an export drive. Included in the profits is an £88,000 exceptional cost of reorganization at Cirkit Holdings. The dividend is doubled to 0.2p.

Swiss block Galactic plan

Galactic Holdings' planned Sfr75 million (£29 million) gold-linked bond issue has been postponed after the Swiss National Bank ruled it violated banking law. Banque Indosuez (Suisse), joint lead manager, said. The provision to pay interest and redemption in gold violated the law giving the central bank a monopoly on issuing money.

Stopgap for Benlox

Talks with a "leading figure from the City and industry" aimed at appointing his chairman of Benlox Holdings, the minute property and construction group which failed to take over the Storehouse conglomerate last year, were taking longer than expected, Mr Simon Berrill, the chief executive, conceded yesterday. He said he would step in as stopgap chairman when Mr Andrew Millar retired on Monday.

The delay was in no way due to Benlox, but had to do with the availability of the candidate and changes expected on the board of his company, Mr Berrill said. He refused to give further details, saying all would be revealed later this summer. The announcement of talks with a "senior City figure" was made in March.

Another ICI plant turns to coal

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

ICI, Britain's largest industrial coal user - it now takes over a million tonnes a year from British Coal - has converted the power plant at its plastic films factory in Scotland to burn coal and scrap materials from the factory.

The plant in Dumfries was officially opened yesterday by the ICI Films division's executive officer, Mr Jim Park, and Sir Robert Haslam, chairman of British Coal and a former deputy chairman of ICI.

The new boiler plant, the first of its kind in Britain, cost £6 million and each year will use 35,000 tonnes of coal produced from open-cast sites in Scotland and Cumbria.

The plant will replace an oil-fired plant and is the 12th major investment in coal-fired plants at ICI sites in Britain. ICI yesterday confirmed that it was considering turning to coal at three other factories.

Mr Park said the decision to turn to coal at the Dumfries plant was because of the plant's ability to meet the site's energy needs as well as strict environmental demands. Its ability to produce energy from scrap plastic and packaging materials also convinced ICI to adopt a fluidized-bed system.

The ICI board meeting took place in Paris yesterday, only the second time in its 62-year history that it has met outside Britain. ICI has more than 15,000 employees on the Continent and 60 production sites.

Profit downgradings hit Dee

State bulls in Dee Corporation, who refused terms of 22.5p a share from Barker & Dobson in the abortive £2 billion bid this year, were given further reason to rue their decision yesterday.

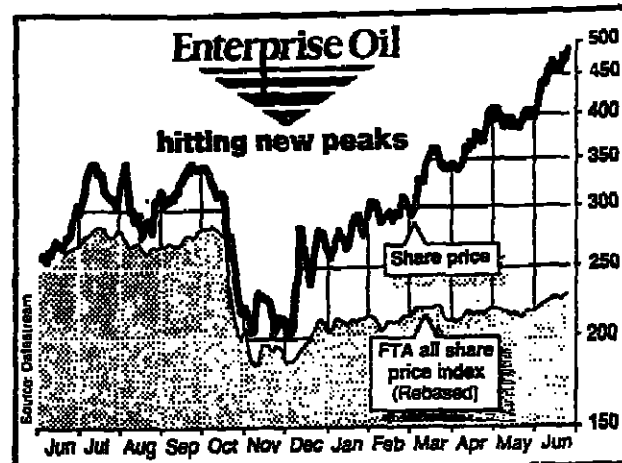
Barclays de Zotte Wedd, Dee's own broker, decided to lop £12.5 million from its profit forecast of £220 million for the current year. As if to rub salt into the wounds, rival Hoare Govett followed suit, reducing its estimate of profits for the year to April 1989 from £220 million to £205 million. The Dee share price immediately took a tumble in after-hours trading, falling by 6p to 185p as almost 4 million shares changed hands.

Hoare blamed the downgrading on rising costs at Dee. It claims that the group is spending more money than ever before on advertising and training new staff but insists that it only reduced its profit

We should hear news soon that NW Exploration, the Dublin-based explorer of oil and minerals, has applied for a listing on the USM. The group currently enjoys a quote on the Stock Exchange under Rule 535.3, where its share price closed last night unchanged at 62p.

forecast after it learned of the decision by BZW.

Dee has been a firm market of late, prompted by speculation that Associated British Foods was close to selling on its 15 per cent stake in the company to a mystery suitor. AB Foods obtained its holding a couple of years ago as part-payment for selling its Fine Fare supermarket chain to



Enterprise Oil hitting new peaks

Dee. The deal was struck valuing Dee shares at the equivalent of 268p. But AB Foods agreed not to sell the stake to any one buyer for at least two years. That agreement runs out any day now. If it does decide to sell, it will be sitting on a large trading loss.

Full-year figures from Dee for the latest period to April 30 are likely to make gloomy reading. They are expected to show a downturn in pretax profits from £192 million to £183 million - which dealers claim could make them vulnerable to another unwanted bid and will, no doubt, provide further unrest among Dee's institutional shareholders.

Yesterday's news from the City is probably going to spoil any hopes of a peaceful weekend that Mr Alec Monk, the Dee chairman, may have had in mind.

Cadbury Schweppes lost early gains despite the news of Suchard's capitulation in the battle for control of Rowntree following the higher, agreed offer on Thursday from Nes-

STOCK MARKET

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valued. Savoy "A" shares lost 30p at 660p, while the all-important "B" shares fluctuated wildly to close £42 dearer at £272.50.

Dealers claimed that the THF share price had been supported by increased business on the traded options market where investors were going heavily for the call.

Enterprise Oil extended Thursday's run with a rise of 7p to a new high of 486p - making a two-day gain of 16p. This followed reports this week that the oil team at Kleinwort Greaves had upgraded its estimate of recoverable oil from the Nelson Field 22-11, where Enterprise owns a 55 per cent stake, from 200 million barrels to 275 million barrels.

Enterprise announced yesterday that it was pressing ahead with plans to develop the North Sea Amethyst gas field, where it owns a near 15

per cent stake. The plans have been approved by the Department of Energy. The shares have also been chased higher on talk that it could soon become the target of an unwanted bid. British Gas is reckoned to have passed its slide rule over the group and liked what it saw. But there are already several large shareholders on the reg-

ister. ICI and Lasso are known to account for about 50 per cent of the equity but may be willing to sell.

Elsewhere in the oil sector, Ultramar took an early tumble following a row about crude oil prices. Ultramar says it is too early to work out what impact this would have on profits. The shares closed 4p down at 300p.

The rest of the equity market spent a lacklustre day as the first leg of the account drew to a close.

But investors yesterday chose to keep a low profile, awaiting the outcome of Monday's trade figures and following another hesitant start to trading on Wall Street. But turnover levels remained encouraging with almost 600 million shares traded.

The FT-SE 100 index, down 15 points earlier in the day, closed above its worst levels with a deficit of 7.6 at 1,871.3. The narrower FT index of 30 shares also recovered from an initial 10-point fall to finish 1.8 lower at 1,494.9.

Government securities were left nursing losses stretching to more than 2%.

Among the equity leaders, the electrical sector resisted the trend with GEC climbing 4p to 159p amid further heavy turnover. A total of 32 million shares were traded.

Racal Electronics also improved by 9p to 346p with dealers hoping for details next week of the proposed Vodafone flotation.

Rival Plessey also advanced by 4p to 165p, hoping for news of a big defence contract.

Michael Clark

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The FT-SE 100 index, down 15 points earlier in the day, closed above its worst levels with a deficit of 7.6 at 1,871.3. The narrower FT index of 30 shares also recovered from an initial 10-point fall to finish 1.8 lower at 1,494.9.

Government securities were left nursing losses stretching to more than 2%.

Among the equity leaders, the electrical sector resisted the trend with GEC climbing 4p to 159p amid further heavy turnover. A total of 32 million shares were traded.

Racal Electronics also improved by 9p to 346p with dealers hoping for details next week of the proposed Vodafone flotation.

Rival Plessey also advanced by 4p to 165p, hoping for news of a big defence contract.

Michael Clark

per cent stake. The plans have been approved by the Department of Energy.

The shares have also been chased higher on talk that it could soon become the target of an unwanted bid. British Gas is reckoned to have passed its slide rule over the group and liked what it saw. But there are already several large shareholders on the reg-

ister. ICI and Lasso are known to account for about 50 per cent of the equity but may be willing to sell.

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Rival Plessey also advanced by 4

Scandinavian group could make an offer for NESL

By Colin Narborough

A Scandinavian-led consortium is urgently studying the commercial viability of the crisis-hit North East Shipbuilders Ltd (NESL) - Britain's biggest state-owned shipyard - with a view to making a possible bid for the Wearside complex in the next two weeks.

The approach to NESL was made by Mr Peter Zachi, a Dane aged 44, who is closely involved with the yard's only present work, a £90 million Danish order for 34 small "Superflex" ferries which has run into serious contractual problems.

His consortium's move comes as the Government is on the verge of finalizing the

sale of another arm of British Shipbuilders, the Govan yard on the Clyde, to a Norwegian gas tanker group, Kvaerner Industrier.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Trade and Industry Minister, last week made clear that he is against aid for NESL to secure a £100 million Cuban order as long as the yard remains in public hands, but would take a different view if the yard were in private control.

Responding to a bitter attack on government shipbuilding policy from Mr John Lister, the BS chairman, Mr Clarke also reaffirmed his intention of returning the whole of the loss-making British Shipbuilders, including

NESL, to the private sector. Without the Cuban order, NESL is threatened with closure. Its lack of work will mean 150 lay-offs next week, with a further 500 likely to follow at the end of August. The yard employs about 2,200.

Currently, it is working on the 15th vessel of the Danish order and plans to build the rest even though the legal wrangle with the buyers is unresolved.

Mr Zachi, who designed the ferries, has been in business in Britain for the past two years, running a shipping and marine engineering interest group under the Sunderland-based PZ Holdings. In Den-

mark he has a yard, Coroner, at Mullerup, on the West coast of Zealand.

Mr Brian Hesketh, a director of PZ Holdings, said yesterday that the consortium looking at NESL comprised four or five companies, including a bank and an international marine equipment firm.

He said it had "every confidence" in both the potential of the NESL yard and the salability of the "Superflex" ferries.

Mr Bryan Gould, Labour's industry spokesman, told a news conference at NESL that he was not opposed to privatization of the yard, if it safeguarded the industry

Hidden dangers to reviving confidence lurk overseas



KENNETH FLEET

Believers in the second shocking leg of the bear market have been thwarted for another week. Ordinary shares have continued their two steps forward, one step back progression, assisted by Wall Street, a firmer dollar and takeover activity, and underpinned by another half-point rise in bank base rates. Yesterday, the market decided to be depressed by the May balance of payments figures, due on Monday, which if they show a yawning deficit will be a forerunner of downward pressure on sterling and another hike in interest rates.

But do not feel too alarmed - there are still roundabouts as well as swings. Economist Bill Martin of Phillips & Drew seems to me to strike the right note. The good news is "the UK's long-term potential growth rates could be as high as 4 per cent, ex-oil." The bad news - "there is more inflation in the system," perhaps 6 per cent by early next year. Base rates will be in double figures by the onset of winter, but the economy will still grow next year, probably by a respectable 2.5 per cent. We may have to forego £3 billion in tax cuts in the 1989 Budget, having to settle for a mere billion.

A hideous prospect? Hardly, and not one likely to shatter the shoots of optimism visible between the City's paving stones. The hidden dangers to reviving confidence if they lurk anywhere are outside Britain.

I was very impressed on Wednesday both by Cunard's elegantly sleek Sea Goddess, moored in the Pool of London, and the tidings brought on board by Lord Stevens of Ludgate, who told me that in June, for the first time since the October stock market crash, MIM Britannia's trusts are making net sales of units. Are private investors showing more perception than institutional fund managers, or merely more courage?

The private investor deserves to be right because he, and she, are getting a poor deal in other ways. I am not thinking especially of those who put their money and their trust in Barlow Clowes. If savings have been lost the intermediaries and advisers have a great deal to answer for. If there are not appropriate legal remedies, the law must be changed. It is true none the less that when investors are offered extravagantly high returns for their savings, normal prudence too often flies out of the window. Inflated rates guarantee only losses.

In respect of investor protection, the Stock Exchange is exemplary but small private investors have become orphans of the storms - first Big Bang and then the October crash. The central issue is the rise in commissions.

The chairman of the Exchange, Sir Nicholas Goodison, is right to put part of the blame on the costly rigidities and excessive demands of the Financial Services Act; he does himself no justice when he glibly recalls that in the days of fixed commissions large institutional business subsidised small private client business and if the Government pre-

ferred competition to the cartel then someone had to pay. At best this bogus reasoning ignores the enormous financial benefits competition has brought to the Stock Exchange as an institution and to members as individuals.

Within London, institutional business, which accounts for 80 per cent of the total, is rapidly becoming concentrated in the hands of 10 firms, eight of them financial conglomerates embracing both broking and market-making. Not all of them are yet committed to dealing only for institutions but that is the trend.

Below the top 10, disenchantment with private client business has also set in. The most recent example is the sale of Capel-Cure Myers' private client and investment management business by its parent, Australia and New Zealand Banking Group. It will not be the last.

Private investors are now seen as falling into four broad categories. At the top of the scale are the mega-rich whose business will continue to find eager takers among merchant banks such as Barings, NIM Rothschild and Hill Samuel, although the less than mega-rich may be in some danger of being lumped under "asset management" without guarantee of the finest personalized attention. At the other end of the scale are the very small investors - with a few hundred pounds at most - who are shunned by brokers and are usually pointed in the direction of unit trusts. In between are the people whose business is big enough to be satisfying.

They may be largely content with unit trusts, forming one category, or they may be direct investors (as well as indirect, through unit trusts) in Stock Exchange securities.

According to taste they prefer either the no-frills dealing services offered by Barclays (Barclaysdirect), Albert E Sharp (Sharelink) and Fidelity; or the dealing-cum-advisory services of Barclays and National Westminster; or the more comprehensive services of more "traditional" stockbrokers, outside London, grouped under Allied Provincial Services and National Investment Group.

Robin Woodhead, chief executive of NIG, recognizes that the private client broker "as we have known him" is a dying breed, a victim of sloth, the complexity of the market and giving up the ground to more vigorous rivals outside the Stock Exchange who were quick to recognize that people with money wanted advice across the spectrum of savings, and quick to provide them with suitable investment packages. Against Allied Duabar and Abbey Life, for example, the old-style broker stood not an earthly chance.

"The main failing," according to Mr Woodhead, "was to move away from clients, leaving them and their growing resources - saving, inheritance, rising disposable incomes - to others: the unit trusts, the insurance industry, the banks."

Mr Woodhead, who hates the "provincial broker" tag - "the ultimate conceit is that you have to be in London to be wealthy" - maintains that "the key to profitability is efficient but inexpensive settlement of Stock Exchange transactions. The problem is the high capital cost of setting up systems and networks to reduce transaction costs. Our aim is to ensure that all clients receive the same service as clients in London."

He foresees the small private client broker disappearing, with the new boutique organizations and "sales front" that take their place plugged into others' systems. The main competition for NIG he does not think will come from other brokers but from banks and building societies.

"The neat trick for NIG as a business is not so much to increase market share of the funds that go through the system; it is more to develop the business to a level of efficiency where you can process all the business cost effectively and can afford to give the private clients the services they require: communication, dealing, research, information - and good ideas. A category A de-luxe service embracing administration, advice and new products."

He continues: "We have reached the point where we can identify all our clients, and participate in takeover games with our retail distribution network. A list of 120,000 names is a pretty big list if a company is looking for support at the retail end to add to the support it has from institutions."

On wider issues Mr Woodhead has equally firm views. "We must have a reduction in the amount of paper, otherwise the system will become hopelessly clogged. Taurus promises a paperless market and Barclaysare, by using a nominee company, is essentially paperless. Clients like share certificates because they have always had them but with less paper and more nominee companies they will be able to trade more, though not necessarily more cheaply."

SAEF (Seag Automatic Execution Facility), which from November 28 will enable brokers to deal in a limited number of stock in limited amounts through a computer network, "will be fine if it works. It should make it easier for everyone to deal. With checking controls (client has not paid, etc) it should reduce the scope for error and by cutting down transaction work, help the broker."

So the private client below the high net worth level has not been entirely abandoned in all areas of the Stock Exchange. But it probably needs a resumed privatization programme to make him feel really loved and wanted.

ABF defends cash pile



Associated British Foods, the milling and baking group famous for its Sunblest bread and Twinings tea, yesterday defended its decision to sit on £600 million cash. But Mr Garry Weston, the chairman (above), declined to say whether he was earmarking the money to revive ABF's aborted takeover bid for S&W Berisford (Joe Joseph writes).

Mr Weston, rebuffing criticism about ABF's policy of drumming its fingers while assets idled in the bank, scoffed at suggestions he distribute the board to shareholders and let them decide how to spend the money.

"We're sitting there with the cash waiting for the opportunity to come," he told ABF's annual meeting in London.

"We never have less than two situations on the table being evaluated. I don't know whether it's better to have £2.5 billion in Rowntree or £600 million in the bank. I'd rather have £600 million in the bank."

AB Foods shelved its £767 million offer for Berisford, the sugar producer and commodities dealer, last autumn after the stock market crash had made its takeover terms look relatively pricey. Under Britain's takeover rules, AB Foods

will be allowed to bid again for Berisford in November.

"We're still interested in British Sugar," said Mr Weston of Berisford's prize asset. "We made no secret of the fact that that's why we bid for Berisford in the first place."

He said he was unable to comment on whether the bid might be reawakened when rules permitted, but said he had no doubts about the wisdom of aborting the takeover plan last year. "It was impossible to evaluate what the losses at Berisford might have been from property transactions, arbitrage, commodities and so forth."

Floyd may bid for Darien

By Carol Ferguson

Speculation is mounting that Floyd Engage, the onshore British oil company, could bid for New Darien Oil Trust, the £7 million fund run by the Edinburgh-based managers, Hodgson Martin.

It is believed that neither of New Darien's main shareholders, British Empire Securities and Bryson Oil & Gas, is interested in bidding, although Floyd is thought to have been in talks with Bryson, possibly with a view to a merger. Floyd's acquisition of New Darien would amount to a backdoor rights issue.

New Darien contributes less than 10 per cent of Hodgson Martin's income since its venture capital activities, and its new investment trust Salfire Insurance Investment, have grown in importance.

Ultramar hit by row

A renewed dispute between Japan and Indonesia over prices of natural gas hit the share price of Ultramar, the British independent oil company, which has substantial gas reserves in Indonesia.

The dispute, between the Tokyo government and Pertamina, the Indonesian state oil group, and centres on the link between oil and gas prices. Indonesia prices gas against Opec's \$18 a barrel price, while Japan claims it should be linked to free market oil prices of about \$15.50. Ultramar fell more than 14p but recovered to 300p.

Placing by Savills

By Martin Waller

Top people will not now get the chance to buy into Savills, the top people's estate agent, before it comes to the stock market next month, as the company has opted for a placing in preference to an offer for sale.

The decision had been taken on the advice of its professional advisers, a spokeswoman said. The chairman, Mr George Inge, had initially said his board was considering offering at least some of the shares direct to the public.

The company is likely to have a price tag of £40 to £50 million when impact day comes.

Rockfort comes to market at £60m

By Our City staff

Rockfort Group, the property development company founded by Mr Roger Smeed, the former Chelsea and Reading footballer, is coming to the market valued at £60 million.

The group, from Reading in Berkshire, is involved in commercial, retail, industrial and residential developments, primarily in central London and the provincial towns of South-east England, especially the Thames Valley.

Rockfort is involved in eight office schemes totalling 176,000 sq ft, three retail schemes totalling 90,000 sq ft, and nine residential schemes, which are expected to provide more than 430 homes.

The group is forecasting pre-tax profits of £8.4 million for the year to December 31 1988, of which 85 per cent is from commercial developments, the balance being residential.

Earnings per share are forecast to be 15.4p, nearly three times 1987 earnings of 5.6p, and at the offer price of 140p, the prospective price/earnings multiple is 9.1.

A total of 17.6 million shares, 41 per cent of the company, are being offered for public subscription by way of an offer for sale, raising £18.7 million for the company and £4.6 million for the existing shareholders.

New era for European steel industry

From Michael Dynes, Luxembourg

The European steel industry will be forced into the arena of free competition after a decision by EEC industry ministers to abolish an eight-year-old system of protective quotas from next month.

Herr Karl-Heinz Narjes, the European Commissioner for Industry, told an EEC ministerial meeting in Luxembourg yesterday that improvements in the steel sector

meant protection of the European steel industry was "no longer necessary".

In December, ministers agreed that the quota system could be extended only if producers came up with proposals for scrapping excess capacity, but they failed to meet the June deadline set by the European Commission.

West Germany, Italy and France had argued forcefully

for the quotas to be extended, while Britain and Denmark sided with the Commission.

Only a unanimous vote by the Council of Ministers could have stopped the Commission going ahead with plans to abolish the quota system.

Mr John MacGregor, the Minister of Agriculture, has attacked the pact that have regulated the world coffee market for the past 25 years,

making clear Britain cannot continue to support consumer-hostile intervention.

"A coffee agreement of the present type is a blunt instrument which largely misses the target," he told the Sixth International Coffee Congress meeting in Brighton.

He described as "intolerable" the system of export quotas under the International Coffee Agreement

Results hit by currencies and board changes

BHP profits fail to top \$1bn

From Richard Battley, Sydney

Australia's strengthening currency, and interest changes incurred in removing Mr Robert Holmes a Court and Mr John Elliott from its board, prevented BHP from posting a Aus\$1 billion profit.

Even so, the oil, steel and mining conglomerate yesterday announced a net profit of Aus\$940 million (£449 million) for the year ending May 31, 15 per cent higher than the previous year.

The stock market was unimpressed - BHP scrip closed yesterday 20 cents lower at Aus\$8.20 - even though most analysts had been expecting a maximum profit of Aus\$900 million.

The BHP chief executive, Mr Brian Loton, architect of the successful multi-billion-dollar plan to remove Mr Holmes a Court and Mr Elliott from the BHP board, was delighted with the results.

"This is a landmark result," he said yesterday. "We have been quick and

effective in responding to the challenges last year and we have been able to put in place the basis for continued profits and growth in the 1990s."

Analysts believe a stronger contribution from BHP's steel division, increased commodity prices and reduced debt-servicing costs, to be achieved through asset sales, will push profits beyond Aus\$1 billion in 1988-89. In 1985-86, it was tantalizingly close to this figure when profits were Aus\$988 million.

The 1987-88 result was achieved with an 11 per cent increase in revenue of Aus\$10.9 billion. All divisions reported higher sales despite some lower commodity prices.

The dividends, as previously announced, total 32 cents a share. Fully franked, they will be paid from earnings per share of 63 cents, 19 per cent higher than in 1986-87. This computation is based on reduced capital, and allows for

the Aus\$2.1 billion buy-back and cancellation of the 300 million shares from Mr Holmes a Court's Bell Resources Ltd.

Profits from the petroleum division jumped 26 per cent to Aus\$364 million, due mainly to a full year's contribution from the Jabiru field in the Timor Sea. Bass Strait production continued to fall, with output down 3 per cent. Mr Loton said the Hamilton Oil Corporation, bought last December, did not contribute to profits.

With more than half of BHP sales being nominated in or linked with the American dollar, the rising Australian dollar poses enormous problems for the country's largest company.

Every US one-cent movement in the exchange rate means a change in revenue of Aus\$18 million. In the financial year reported, the Australian dollar rose from 66 US cents to 72 US cents

CHASE THE BEST MORTGAGE

People have been coming to Chase Manhattan in this country for more than a century. No wonder. The Chase Manhattan Bank is one of the world's leading international banks and our London office has become one of our biggest branches. Where, we believe, our service is second to none.

Just give us the information we need, and we'll have an offer in principle out to you in less than 48 hours. And we'll stay with it with the same speed and efficiency right the way through to completion. What's more, we'll send you a cheque for £100 should we not live up to our 48 hour promise.

Our interest rate on new endowment applications is just 8.95% (APR 9.5%).

And we'll give you a loan of up to 2.6 times your joint income. Or, alternatively, 3 times your main income plus 1 times your partner's

income, if that's applicable. What's more, the rate of 8.95% is guaranteed to be at least 0.5% below our mortgage base rate for six months after completion.

And for those applications received before 1st August we'll also refund our survey fee in full upon completion.

So send the coupon to David Sinclair. Or give us a ring on 01-747 4507. But fast. There'll be a lot of people chasing. So go for it. If you want the best mortgage, chase it.

Right now.



Example: A single man aged 29 buying a house for £50,000 and applying to us for an endowment mortgage of £40,000 to be secured over 25 years on the property and on an endowment policy. Monthly endowment premium £45.40, net monthly mortgage payment £242.40. Our APR is variable. Interest rates correct at time of going to press. We require a first mortgage over the property.

Deductions for charges and expenses which will be made in the early years of the period of an endowment policy may represent a higher proportion of the value of such policy than the deductions which are made in later years. Sale of an endowment policy during its early years may realise less than the aggregate amount paid as premiums for such policy.

This advertisement is issued by The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., which has applied to join The Securities Association and is interim authorised.

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading.

● Ex dividend. c Cum dividend. k Cum stock split. s Ex stock split. w Cum all (any two or more of above). a Ex all (any two or more of above). Dealing or valuation days: (1) Monday. (2) Tuesday.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

[illegible]

DOLLAR SPOT RATES				
85	Denmark	6.8400-6.8450	Italy	1333.5-1334.5
86	West Germany	1.8010-1.8020	Belgium (Com)	37.88-37.93
87	Switzerland	1.4825-1.4835	Hong Kong	7.8000-7.8010
88	Netherlands	2.0235-2.0245	Portugal	146.20-146.60
89	France	6.0620-6.0650	Spain	118.90-119.10
90	Japan	130.00-130.10	Austria	12.67-12.68

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOPEX and Ecol

[illegible]

BULLION:
 Ounces \$445.75-448.25 Silver \$449.50-444.00
 Coins: \$447.00-447.50 Low \$441.75-442.25

		Per coin (Ex VAT)
Britannia:	\$457.00-460.00 (\$268.50-268.50)	
Maple Leaf:	\$442.00-442.00 (\$268.50-268.50)	
Nepalese (1 gm):	\$457.00-460.00 (\$268.50-268.50)	
American Eagles:	\$457.00-460.00 (\$268.50-268.50)	
Paper Money:	\$457.00-460.00 (\$268.50-268.50)	
Old Sovereigns:	\$104.00-105.50 (\$260.00-261.00)	
Pfennings:	\$355.50 (\$218.50)	
Poll:	\$195.00 (\$124.50)	
Silver:	\$2.82-6.86 (\$2.94-3.95)	

[illegible]

1.40	91.27	27	Govt	Tell's	197.20	197.20	808
1.40	91.27	27	Japanese	Govt Bond		Previous open interest	612
1.40	91.27	27	Sep 88	108.26	108.26		486
1.40	91.15	0	Dec 88	NT		102.35	486
1.40	91.03	0					

ITIES

INDEX	LONDON METAL EXCHANGE				
By W Johnson	Official prices/volume previous day				
By 1000-896	Rudolf Wot				
1019-1018	(£/tonne)	Cash	3 months	Vol	Tone
		1405.00	1377.00	10000	10000

W 155-9742	Lead	378.00-379.00	372.50-373.00	48525	Sheet
W 155-1518	Zinc H Gde	759.00-820.00	761.50-764.00	76875	Cast
W 1180-1170	Silver Larger	867.00-880.00	869.00-722.00	Nil	Coilet
W 1190-1800	Silver Sm	867.00-880.00	869.00-722.00	Nil	Coilet
Vet 2768	Aluminium	1700.00-1705.0	1633.0-1635.0	306625	Cast
Cominvol	Aluminium Hg	2590.0-3010.0	2900.0-2920.0	12950	Cast
W 225-970	Nickel	15800-15900	16000-15100	11400	Easier
W 226-976					
W 232-94.0					
W 230-33.0					
UTURES					
	LONDON MET		MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION		
	FUTURES (fig)		Arge liststock prices at representative		
	Use Pay Contract				

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

76	40	Thene	Hills			91.33	91.33
80	40	Thene	Hills			91.33	91.33
126	116	LUP	Upl		Sep 88	NT	—
148	139	Unit Group	143	147	+2	6.7	4.6

Mar 88	91.33
Apr 88	91.33
May 88	91.33
Jun 88	91.33
Jul 88	91.33
Aug 88	91.33
Sep 88	91.33
Oct 88	91.33
Nov 88	91.33
Dec 88	91.33

ICSI-LOR Group

After a week's net trade in a 20c/s range, Brent closed a little up overall as the immediate physical pressures eased. General market sentiment, however, continued to favour the bears. Still abundant

COCOA

London

Jul 940-630

Sep 949-846

[illegible]

Naphtha	148-150	+1
Avg		unc
Vol		0
BREXIT		
GNI Freight Futures Dry Cargo (\$/t)(p)		
Jul 88	Hk 1230-1210 Low	Close 1229.0
Oct 88	Hk 1390-1365 Low	Close 1370.0
Jan 89	Hk 1415-1395 Low	Close 1400.0
Apr 89	Hk 1440-1430 Low	Close 1430.0
Vol \$48 lots		Open Interest 2434
Dry cargo index:	1242.0 same as 23/6/88	
LONDON POTATO FUTURES (\$/tonne)		
Mth	Open	Close
Nov	95.7	99.9
Feb	105.0	107.0
Apr	105.0	107.0
May	181.3	186.3
Vol 572		
SOYABEAN		
Sep 10n	5.6-6.0	F
Oct 10n	5.6-6.1	F
Dec 10n	5.6-6.1	F
Dec 200n	95.0	J

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FAMILY MONEY BRIEFING

Harrods goes into the gold card business

Harrods, the store in Knightsbridge, London, that already writes its name in gold letters, is to launch its own gold card.

Harrods Trust, the banking arm of Harrods, which will be changing its name to Harrods Bank on Friday, will team up in early August with American Express to provide customers with a gold card. The card will offer much the same as any other Amex Gold card, such as an automatic overdraft at a preferential rate of around 11.3 annual percentage rate and automatic travel insurance for trips paid for with the gold card. Amex Gold card is also trying to create a members' club with exclusive offers such as seats at the premiere and final performance of the Kirov Ballet.

The gold card is a charge card, which has to be paid off monthly, rather than a credit card, but the automatic overdraft makes it more flexible and less costly than a credit card.

Harrods Bank is also moving into the mainstream of banking with the clearing system. In the autumn Harrods customers will begin receiving the new-style cheque guarantee cards featuring a hologram of William Shakespeare. "We wouldn't want our customers' cheque cards to be questioned," said Alex Wishart, director and financial manager of Harrods Bank.

£20 for students

The National Westminster, which has more branches on college campuses than any other bank, is offering the traditional carrot to students to open an account — money. Student inflation at NatWest has risen by 66 per cent, with the cash on offer rising from £12 to £20. In contrast, students with Lloyds and the Midland are eyeing the straight cash bribe in favour of paying interest on current accounts for students. Barclays offers £10 and a Filofax. The Royal Bank of Scotland is offering £15, again running a competition for students opening an account.

Directors to pay

Three directors of the New Cross Building Society, which founded in 1983 and was merged with the Woolwich, have been ordered to pay a contribution towards the cost of the committee of inquiry by the accounts' disciplinary body.

Reginald Rowland has been ordered to pay £27,500 towards the inquiry and £26,000 towards the appeals committee, Frederick Tombs £2,500 towards the inquiry, and Walter Higgitt £1,000.

Another card

Town & Country Building Society is adding a cheque guarantee card to its Moneywise cheque account. Customers will be offered a Co-operative Bank Visa credit card, which doubles as a guarantee card. The credit card has been available in conjunction with the account for some time but has not been valid as a cheque guarantee.

The move makes the society's

The advisers

A pair of heavyweights — accountants Deloitte Haskins & Sells and actuaries R. Watson & Sons — have teamed up to offer pre-retirement counselling to members of pensions schemes. They will visit a company to give individual sessions to senior executives and seminars for more junior members of staff in groups of 15 to 20. No commissions will be taken by the Deloitte Watson Financial Consulting Service. Instead the firm will usually be able to negotiate either reduced premiums or enhanced policy benefits for those taking out any form of insurance plan.

As well as financial, tax and pensions advice, the team will be geared up to give advice about adapting to retirement, bereavement and other non-financial matters.

Units £9.4m down

May was another poor month for the unit trust industry. Investors appear to have taken the "sell in May" advice to heart this year and the amount of units cashed in outweighed the amount bought by £9.5 million. This was the first time there has been a net outflow since November, the month after the crash, when the unit trust industry saw previously enthusiastic investors recall in horror and withdraw £12.7 million net.

Sailors' break

Ships' crews are getting a tax break through a new clause in the Finance Bill that will mean that more of them qualify to receive their earnings free of tax. The time limits normally imposed on visits home in order to qualify for this status are being relaxed. Now a crew member can spend 90 consecutive days at home instead of 62 and the total number of days spent in the UK can be a quarter of the year's total instead of the present one-sixth.

Amex protection

American Express is introducing insurance cover on goods bought with an American Express card to protect



the customer against loss, theft or accidental damage. The products covered include electrical appliances, cameras, bottles of alcohol or perfume and items bought in the UK or abroad. However, the cover does not apply where the card-holder is already insured under a household policy, and the American Express insurance will not cover faulty goods.

The insurance covers purchases made with the card from June 23 until July 1. At that point the scheme will be reviewed and may be extended. Card-holders wanting to claim can telephone 0622 690078.

Cheques, too

The National Westminster Bank is adding a cheque book to its high-interest account. The restrictions on the Special Reserve account are also being relaxed — the minimum withdrawal comes down from £250 to £100 and the minimum balance from £2,000 to £500. Automatic payments can be made into the account but direct debits and standing orders cannot be paid out from it. There is no sweep facility from a current account but funds can be transferred from the account to a current account with a telephone call.

The interest rate paid on the account is 3.5 per cent net up to £999, 4.75 per cent up to £1,999, 5.5 per cent up to £9,999 and 5.75 per cent on sums above that.

CGT INDEXATION ALLOWANCE MAY 1988						
	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
January	—	0.286	0.223	0.164	0.103	0.052
February	—	0.280	0.218	0.155	0.099	0.058
March	0.337	0.278	0.214	0.144	0.098	0.056
April	0.310	0.280	0.198	0.121	0.087	0.043
May	0.301	0.255	0.194	0.115	0.085	0.042
June	0.297	0.252	0.191	0.113	0.086	0.042
July	0.297	0.245	0.192	0.115	0.089	0.043
August	0.297	0.240	0.181	0.112	0.086	0.040
September	0.297	0.234	0.179	0.113	0.080	0.037
October	0.291	0.230	0.171	0.111	0.079	0.032
November	0.285	0.225	0.168	0.107	0.070	0.027
December	0.287	0.222	0.169	0.106	0.066	0.028

UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld		Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld		Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld		Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
ACTIVA LIFE INSURANCE																			
10-27 5450					Equity	238.7	252.4	+3.2		EAGLE STAR INSURANCE					HILL SAUNDERS LIFE				
Life Funds					Midland Ind UT	214.3	227.9	+7.7		Chesham, Gloucester	GLS 71.0				Unit Trust: Addiscombe Road, Croydon				
					Midland Ind S	214.3	227.9	+7.7		10-28 22311					10-27 5450				
CALIFORNIA ASSURANCE																			
Secured	11.74	12.26	+0.01		Equity Units	230.54		+1.04		Secured Fund	113.5	116.5	+0.1		Secured Fund	313.5	330.1	+5.0	
Secured	12.31	12.86	+0.12		Property Units	230.54		+1.04		Chp Fund	113.5	116.5	+0.1		Secured Fund	313.5	330.1	+5.0	
Out	15.31	16.12	+0.36		2nd Equity	241.4	247.0	+5.9		10-28 1212					Secured Fund	313.5	330.1	+5.0	
Secured	14.13	14.80	+0.01		2nd High Cap	252.9	258.5	+5.6		Equity	113.5	116.5	+0.1		Secured Fund	313.5	330.1	+5.0	
Secured	11.74	12.26	+0.01		2nd Property	256.9	261.9	+2.5		10-28 1212					Secured Fund	313.5	330.1	+5.0	
Secured	11.74	12.26	+0.01		2nd Managed 2	272.1	276.9	+6.3		EAGLE STAR INSURANCE					Secured Fund	313.5	330.1	+5.0	
Secured	11.74	12.26	+0.01		2nd High Cap	272.1	276.9	+6.3		Chesham, Gloucester	GLS 71.0				Secured Fund	313.5	330.1	+5.0	
Secured	11.74	12.26	+0.01		2nd Property	272.1	276.9	+6.3		10-28 1212					Secured Fund	313.5	330.1	+5.0	
Secured	11.74	12.26	+0.01		2nd Managed 2	272.1	276.9	+6.3		Equity	113.5	116.5	+0.1		Secured Fund	313.5	330.1	+5.0	
Secured	11.74	12.26	+0.01		2nd High Cap	272.1	276.9	+6.3		10-28 1212					Secured Fund	313.5	330.1	+5.0	
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FAMILY MONEY

Edited by Vivien Goldsmith

BCI campaign branches out

Many who fear they have lost savings in the collapse of Barlow Clowes International (BCI) are starting satellite groups to campaign, cajole or sue to retrieve their funds.

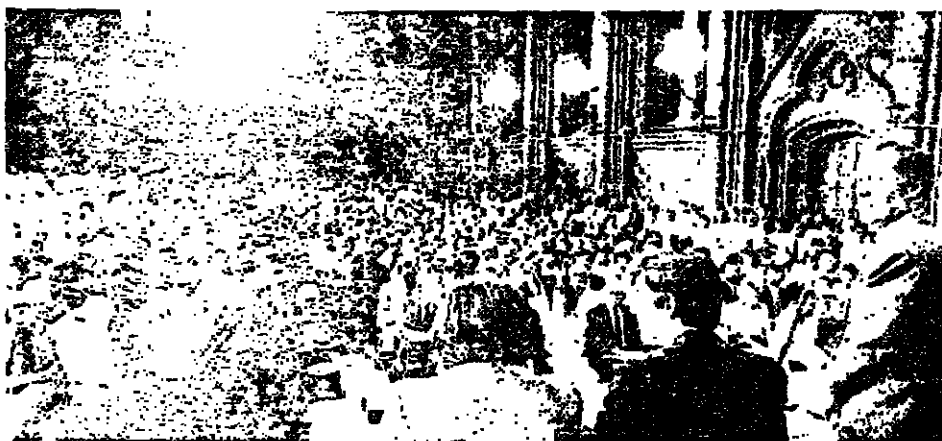
Thursday afternoon's meeting in Manchester Town Hall organized by solicitors Alexander Tatham was attended by about 1,200 investors. It provided a focus for those determined to set off on their own as well as joining in any joint action co-ordinated by the solicitors.

Two committees have been set up — one of solicitors and another of investors.

The solicitors' committee of four consists of representatives of Alexander Tatham of Manchester, Olivers, which has offices in Birmingham and Gibraltar, Gorvin & Kenyon of Stockport, and another firm based in South Wales.

The seven-man committee of investors was formed to safeguard the interests of creditors and to liaise between them and the solicitors involved.

One committee member is London-based John Bohn, managing director of his own sales and management training company, who stands to lose his £124,000 investment. He said: "I invested it two years ago on the advice of a financial consultant friend of mine. I must admit I feel absolutely sick about the whole thing. I am amazed that no one including solicitors, accountants, consultants and



Protesting and seeking solutions: Barlow Clowes investors at Thursday's Stockport meeting

even the Government, had any inkling of the disaster before it happened.

"Fortunately, I am relatively well-off and this will not ruin my life. But my heart goes out to the pensioners and less well-off investors who have lost everything."

Elizabeth Nathaniels, a lecturer, used the Manchester meeting to gather a group of investors interested in taking up their case by political lobbying. She was put in touch with Barlow Clowes by her accountant who passed her to an intermediary.

After a divorce settlement she was advised to take out a mortgage — "a mortgage I didn't need or want" — and put the proceeds into Barlow Clowes. "That was a quarter of my clean-break divorce

settlement which was supposed to last all my life," she said. "I am going to have to ask the mortgage people to wait for a while."

She found the Manchester meeting "a very depressing experience". She said: "I got the impression that all the professionals were going to

'Decent people have really been done in'

have a field day sorting out the complexities, while all around me there were elderly people literally shaking and trembling — average decent conservative people who have really been done in."

She has gathered the names of investors in the Cambridge area caught up in the affair

and hopes to keep the group together. Investors who wish to be involved in lobbying should send a stamped addressed envelope to Mrs Nathaniels at 34 Ellistley Avenue, Cambridge CB3 9JG.

Another group has been formed in Stockport, Greater Manchester — the Stockport Investors' Action Group. The 150-strong group is meeting at 8pm on Monday in Stockport Town Hall.

The solicitor Peter Gorvin, of Gorvin & Kenyon, said most of the investors had put their money into Barlow Clowes via D.C. Wilson, a local firm of intermediaries.

"D.C. Wilson has been rather more active than most in dealing with Barlow Clowes. Investors who went there might be a particular

case because of the close relationship between D.C. Wilson and Barlow Clowes," said Mr Gorvin, referring to revelations in *The Times* that Denis Wilson, a D.C. Wilson director, was a director of Gibraltar-based Temple Bar Investments, which received money from Barlow Clowes.

The Law Society in London is acting as a co-ordination point for solicitors working with Barlow Clowes investors. They have approached 20 solicitors who have said they are representing Barlow Clowes clients. The Law Society is keeping these solicitors in touch with one another as well as directing investors looking for legal advice towards those already working in the area.

Investors will have full legal rights to sue interim authorized firms under the Financial Services Act for breaches between April 29 and June 16. This right has now been watered down until October 3 to prevent investors suing interim authorized firms over technical breaches in the early stages of the Act. But this does not apply to those who can show a loss between April 29 and June 16.

People in Scotland who invested in the Gibraltar-based insurance company Signal Life, which crashed in 1982, have some good news for those who invested in Barlow Clowes via an inter-

mediary with professional indemnity insurance.

The Court of Sessions in Edinburgh has upheld the view that the professional indemnity insurance held by Dundee broker Andrew Lothian was valid for the Signal Life case. The argument has been put that the loss arose because of the collapse of the insurance company rather than the negligence of the broker and the insurance would thus be invalid. But this argument was not upheld by the court.

David Ogilvie, of Dundee solicitors D.M. Ogilvie, will be pursuing the case for compensation for nearly 70 Signal Life investors. He expects a full hearing on the facts of individual cases some time in December.

He says: "In England there was no need to test the indemnity insurance because individual brokers only sold a few bonds and could afford to settle. In Scotland it was different. One broker sold all the bonds."

Under the Financial Services Act, members of FIMBRA, the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association, do not have to have this type of insurance. The Office of Fair Trading held that it would be anti-competitive, so FIMBRA's desire to incorporate this into the rulebook was over-ruled.

Vivien Goldsmith

Small building societies offer aid to debtors

Small building societies are offering rescue loan packages to people with serious debt problems.

An increasing number of societies are entering an area where the activities of some lenders and credit brokers have worried consumer organizations and debt counselors. The societies, however, maintain they are offering a fairer service than many of the finance houses.

The interest charged by building societies for these people is usually a few points above their normal mortgage rate but is likely to be vastly cheaper than the finance houses' charges, which can be 30 per cent or more.

The societies are mainly offering remortgages, not second mortgages, but the new mortgage is usually large enough to allow borrowers to clear county court judgments and other debts or arrears. "We aim to give these people a fresh start," says Jeffrey Allard, who pioneered this type of lending at the Portsmouth Building Society. Mr Allard moved this year to become managing director of the West Bromwich Building Society and is introducing the service there.

The Portsmouth will lend to borrowers with severe debt problems at 13 per cent as long as they have some income. This compares with 10.25 per cent for an ordinary remortgage and 9.75 per cent for a first mortgage. Barry Vaughan at the Portsmouth says that, even though the society charges the higher rate, this is justified by the larger risk.

The West Bromwich charges 9.8 per cent for an ordinary mortgage. The rate for remortgaging people with debt problems will be one or two points above this. In the past the society has charged one percentage point extra for ordinary remortgages.

The Peckham Building Society started offering these loans last autumn. It lends at 11.25 or 11.75 per cent, depending on the scale of debt, compared with a normal 10.75 remortgage rate. It will con-

sider cutting the rate if borrowers keep up payments.

The Walthamstow Building Society entered the market about six months ago. It charges between one and two percentage points above its normal 9.25 per cent mortgage rate. Roy Sage at the Walthamstow stresses a point made by other societies: "It is profitable for societies to look at this business because of the interest rate we can charge. But we don't want to get into this on a large scale."

Small societies are under pressure in the mortgage market because they lack the big societies' marketing muscle. But Mr Allard denies that lending to people with debts is a sign of distress. This is a service the small societies can offer safely because managers can personally keep tabs on these borrowers.

Finance houses are tightening up

The National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux, which counsels about half a million clients a year for debt problems, has traditionally been sceptical about lending to people with debt problems. Its counsellors have seen many people who have increased their difficulties by borrowing from finance companies to repay other creditors.

The association says that despite the lower rates charged by building societies it would still caution someone with heavy debts to consult a counsellor before taking out another loan.

The societies' move into this area comes as many finance houses are tightening up on their lending practices as a result of harsh criticism from debt counselors. One trade organization, the Finance Industry Standards Association, introduced a code of advertising practice in March forbidding its members to advertise specifically to attract people with debt problems.

Maria Scott

The pensioners who invested all their savings

There was not one sign of the normal British sense of humour from the ever-growing queue of people meandering up the staircases and along the mosaic-tiled corridors of Manchester Town Hall, writes Malcolm Long.

Ernest Southon and his wife, of Stockport, Greater Manchester, were typical of the many pensioners who have been victims of the collapse. They had decided to invest £10,000 and use the interest for holidays and keeping their house furnishings up to scratch. "It seemed too good an opportunity to miss," said Mr Southon. "As for the future, if I have any spare money about after this lot, it will be the building society for me."

Another pensioner victim was Patricia Love, of Woodford, Cheshire. Mrs Love invested her entire £18,500 savings. She said: "Suddenly the bank told me that an interest cheque for £500 had been returned and that the company was in the hands of the liquidators. I was horrified. I had been told that my money was absolutely safe and that the whole country would go bust before there could be any risk. What can I do now at my age?"

Muriel Haigh, a 64-year-old widow, of Blackpool, Lancashire, took the investment advice from an advertisement by IPAS, which she saw in an Age Concern booklet. She appears to have lost her entire £14,000 savings and will probably

have to live on her £37-a-week widow's pension.

Derek Leighton, aged 53, from Bramhall, Cheshire, retired early from the police force on health grounds. With his lump sum pay-off he bought up the mortgage on his house and, on the advice of Bramhall broker D.C. Wilson, invested the remaining £15,000.

Gordon Berry, from Cheshire, who had invested well over £20,000, was quite certain what he wanted from the special meeting called by Manchester solicitors Alexander Tatham and Co for the 1,200 creditors who turned up.

He said: "I want to see what Mr Peter Clowes can pull out of the mess. I want to know the legal

responsibilities of the investment companies. I want to know the DTI's responsibilities. I want to see a concerted effort by all the solicitors involved."

"I feel very bitter about the incompetence of these bureaucrats in Whitehall. If they can't look after the interests of the country, then who can?"

Mr Berry first invested three years ago. "I was forced to give up my highly paid job in the public sector for health reasons. I received a pension and a lump sum," he said.

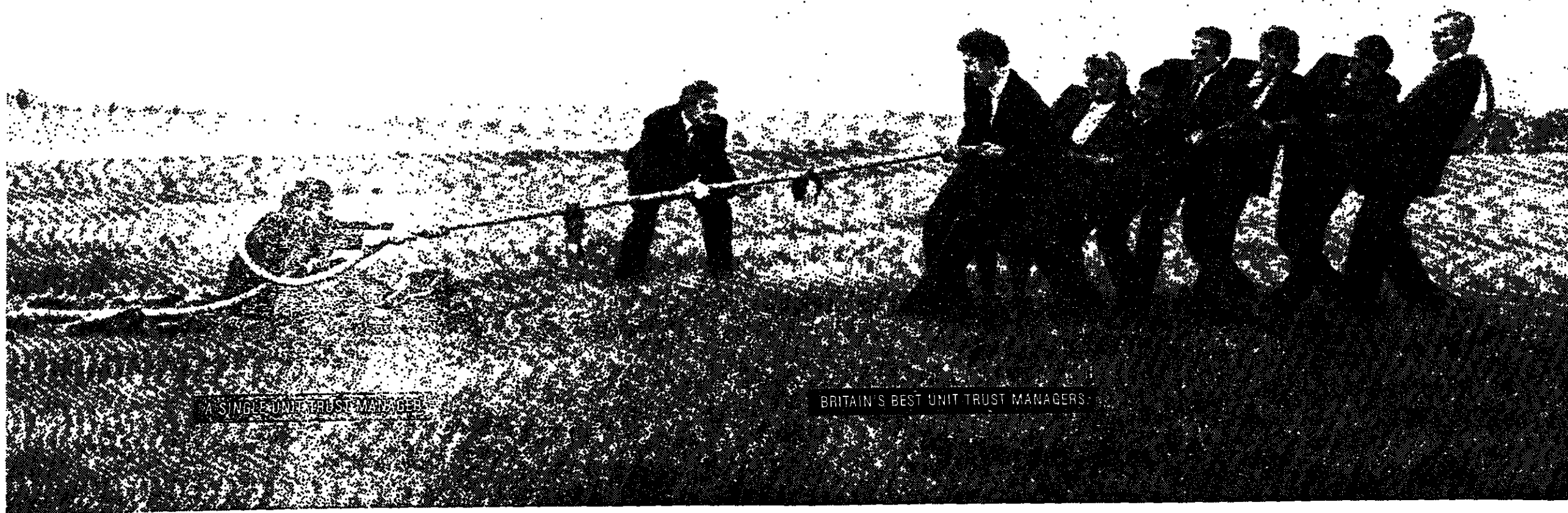
"I sought financial advice and was recommended to Barlow Clowes by a company called IPAS in Weybridge, Surrey. We thought long and hard before committing ourselves. Even-

tually we invested most of the capital because I was informed it would go into gilts, which was a copper-bottomed investment. At no stage was I told that only a small percentage was going into gilts."

"I don't believe I am a foolhardy person. I sought expert advice all along the line and was told my money would be safe."

Some of Mr Berry's hopes from the two-hour meeting were fulfilled. First, the group decided to consider bringing legal proceedings against the Department of Trade and Industry. Secondly, it decided to "collate sufficient information to enable claims against the financial intermediaries to be fully evaluated".

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FAMILY MONEY

Now there's a fine Cognac for everyone

Private investors are being given the rare chance to buy fine Cognac, and particularly mature stock from a single vintage year shortly after distillation — usually the preserve of the trade.

Although brandy may be made in any wine-producing region, Cognac is strictly controlled and may originate only in the Appellation Contrôlée district north of Bordeaux. The finest two sub-districts, thanks to their chalky soil, are the Grande Champagne and Petite Champagne, not to be confused with sparkling wine.

French law prohibits the vintage dating of Cognac in France, so "early landed vintage Cognac" is available only from stocks that have been matured in the UK. The Cognac is stored in bond under Customs and Excise control in hogsheads of approximately 55 gallons.

The investor has both an official French certificate of age and the Customs' records

to support authenticity, age and vintage.

To be "early landed", Cognacs must be of a single vintage and shipped under six years. In damp English bonded warehouses, where darkness is also important, the spirit matures in traditional Limousin oak, acquiring a rich aroma and real style on the palate.

Cognac leaves the still after the second distillation around 72 per cent by volume, it is shipped at 58 per cent and then gradually falls over 15 or 20 years to about 43 per cent. The usual bottling strength is 40 per cent by volume.

Vintage Cognacs are available from several important houses but traditionally one of the finest, Hine, is making limited stocks available to private individuals and other investors through John Harvey and Sons.

Hine is not a distiller but a blender and purchaser of fine Cognac. Its expertise in select-

ing very young stock that will mature into an appreciating asset is world-famous. Bernard Hine, whose family tradition on Cognac dates back to the early 19th century, has selected four Grande Champagnes, which are offered lying in cask in bond.

The 1986 has a delicate, almost vanilla, quality and costs £615 for a quarter cask, £1,187 for a half cask, and £2,255 for a full cask. Harvey's (Harvey House, Whitechurch Lane, Bristol, Avon BS14 0JZ) expects every full cask will yield 24 dozen bottles of 70cl. Although Harvey's will sell less than a cask, in fact the Cognac is still matured in a full-sized hogshead.

Hine 1985, quite a bit richer, costs £654 for a quarter cask, £1,258 for the half and £2,395 for the full cask. As with all the spirits offered, there is free storage until January 1, 1989, when an annual charge — at present £40 per cask plus VAT — will be



Inspection time: Bernard Hine checks the development of a fine Grande Champagne Cognac

levied for bond storage and insurance.

Hine 1983 shows its fuller quality and has real promise. Its cost is £756, £1,463 and £2,785 respectively. The 1981 has just sold out, but Harvey's has limited stocks of the elegant and fruity 1982 at £807, £1,565 and £2,990.

When the Cognac is fully mature, Harvey's, through the Bristol Brandy Company, can arrange bottling, labelling and clearance from bond. The present excise duty is £52.99 per dozen bottles for Cognac at 40 per cent by volume. Original Hine labels will be supplied and the investment can be personalized by adding a name or insignia, such as a company or club logo.

There are several specialist

bottlers. A noted one for fine Cognac is the London Bridge Bonded Bottlers Ltd (10 Stainer Street, London SE1 9RL). Its last order cost the client £12 to receive the cask for gauging and approximately £13 per dozen bottles for bottling. The bottles were imported from France.

David Molyneux-Berry, of Sotheby's, says Cognac is a "good investment in a mixed portfolio" of wines and spirits. Among older stock sold there was a bottle of Croizet 1914, which went for £68. Denis Mounie Grande Champagne 1914 for £80, and Croizet Fine Champagne 1906 for £180.

John Boodle, of Christie's, says there would be a tremendous boom in vintage Cognac

if the Japanese take to it, as they have to Scotch whisky. Christie's sold 1964 Hine Grande Champagne earlier this year for £380 per dozen, 1964 Exsham Grande Champagne last year for £300 per dozen, and 1961 Hine Grande Champagne at £45-£80 a bottle in 1987.

A good range of bottled Cognacs and its Appellation sister brandy, Armagnac, is sold by Berry Bros and Rudd (3 St James's Street, London SW1A 1EG).

Just like the bulk Hine now on offer to investors, single-vintage spirits make for memorable gifts to children and grandchildren.

Conal Gregory
Master of Wine

Personal service, private clients

A new firm of stockbrokers working exclusively for private clients has been set up in the City, writes *Virina Goldsmith*.

Robin Boyle, who has worked with private clients at stockbrokers Panmure Gordon, Hoare Govett, Capel Cure Myers and Standcliffe, has joined with an accountant, David Dunbar, and Michelle Kingsley, who will be the office administrator, to form Dunbar Boyle & Kingsley.

"I think there is a genuine niche in the market for a private client firm with an old-fashioned attitude — but of course we are plugged into the latest technology," says Mr Boyle. He has persuaded his existing clients to put up 15 per cent of the firm's equity capital, in both ordinary and 8 per cent convertible stock.

The firm aims to keep costs down by using a serviced office and the company Security Settlements to process deals rather than setting up its own back-office. The minimum commission is £25, charged at 1.65 per cent. There will be no execution-only service. Mr Boyle says: "That's out. I'm

jaundiced by what I have seen in the last 12 months. In the good times clients negotiate very low rates and in the bad times they walk away."

The firm will not do any original research but will get it from other institutions such as market-makers.

Those with £10,000 upwards will be directed into either a portfolio of investment trust shares, a unit trust portfolio or a defensive portfolio split equally between international bond funds, unit trusts specializing in convertible income shares of split investment trusts and ordinary shares.

Those with £50,000 or more to invest can go into a Blue Riband Portfolio split between market leaders managed on a discretionary or non-discretionary basis and smaller companies, possible take-over targets and unfashionable shares, all managed on a discretionary basis.

The firm starts with 150 stockbroking clients and 400 Business Expansion Scheme clients, and will continue to give BES advice.



Starting up: Michelle Kingsley, Robin Boyle, David Dunbar

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Money every time

I was interested to read in Family Money that NatWest recommend Eurocheques.

I have just returned from a holiday in southern Morocco, where due to illness I was stranded in a small hospital in a small town on the edge of the Sahara.

However, BUPA were endeavouring to get me out and had told me over the telephone that I would need about £36 to get to the nearest airport nearly 300 miles away and from there take the short flight to Marrakesh.

I had no money as it had been spent on the drugs the hospital had purchased and for my treatment. I do not speak French or Arabic. No one spoke English but someone from the hospital escorted me to the local bank, the only one for hundreds of miles.

To my relief I saw the Eurocheque sign. My Access card produced nothing but a puzzled look. My Eurocheque got a brisk nod, but as I went to fill it in it was explained in mime that 200 dinars was the limit. At 14.2 dinars to the pound that was not going to get me far.

I went to leave when I remembered £50 in English notes I had ready for taxis etc at Heathrow.

I produced them with an inquiring look. The teller nearly pulled them out of my grasp. I got 14.9 dinars per pound for them and a smile. In future (if the pound remains high) I shall carry only English money.

Check your cover with care

In Family Money on June 18 you discussed insurance cover for holidays.

Travel insurance policies usually provide cover for loss due to cancellation resulting from illness or accidental injury. With many policies, however, this cancellation clause would not be operative

if an accident without injury, on the way to an airport, or other unavoidable delay, caused a traveller to miss a booked flight. With fixed bookings, as, for example, with Apex fares, this would result in the traveller having to bear the cost of any additional fares personally.

Travellers booking Apex fares would be well advised to raise this question when purchasing holiday insurance cover.

Dr GEORGE ANSELL, MC, FRCP, FRCC, Childwall Park Avenue, Liverpool L16 0JF.



Mrs Amers: Eurocheques were useless

Hang the risk of it being stolen — it's better than being stranded with a bag full of Eurocheques and an Access card.

DORA AMERS (Mrs), Norfolk House, Courlands, Richmond, Surrey TW10 5AT.

We lost, even with insurance

I read your article in Family Money (The Catch in Your Car Cover, June 11) with great interest. The reason is that this is exactly what happened to me in Plymouth several months ago. Items of clothing, make-up and a Coalport figurine valued at £85, all purchased within the previous half hour, were stolen from my car in a multi-storey car park.

Realizing that I was driving my wife's car at the time, I checked her insurance policy and found that the £50 limit applied. As the figurine had just cost £85 I would be out of pocket immediately.

I decided to claim on my house contents (mortgage and building/house contents insurances with NatWest home loans) under unspecified items in a vehicle.

NatWest immediately settled £10 for the two shirts and £5 for my wife's make-up but refused to budge on the figurine even after my solicitor spoke to them, stating that this was not a normal item that would be carried in a vehicle even though they had all been purchased that day. Needless to say, I lost out, and everything is not rosy if claiming through house contents, as your article would have me believe.

G.W. GIBBON, Downhouse, Stoke Climsland, Cornwall, PL17 8LT.

As always, I was most interested to read your article in Family Money on June 18 relating to offshore funds and their appeal.

I agree that for the child non-taxpayer an account in Guernsey or the Isle of Man pays interest gross, and as the child is a non-taxpayer he will not have any tax to pay. If, however, as in the case of most investors, they are taxpayers and resident and ordinarily resident in the UK, an account in Guernsey or the Isle of Man paying interest gross will not assist them, because if they are returning their tax affairs legitimately, they are obliged to return the interest and pay tax at their highest marginal rate.

It seems to me that someone uninitiated in these matters reading that article might feel that any investment in the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man was tax-free and it was unnecessary to return to the Revenue. As this is not the case, may I suggest that it might be useful to emphasize this in future.

N.D.G. JACOB, Rooks Rider, Solicitors, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London, WC2A 3JQ.

Readers' letters for publication are welcomed but The Times regrets it cannot give individual replies or advice. No legal responsibility can be accepted for any advice or statements in these columns. Independent professional advice should always be sought.

Now's the time to back the tortoise



When you seek the best return from your money, your Building Society might appear to be the front runner.

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Of course past performance cannot be relied upon as a guide to future prospects. Unit trust investment does incur a higher risk than Building Society savings.

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£882	£71	1980		£108	
£957	£93	1981		£120	
£1,075	£71	1982		£107	
£1,216	£68	1983		£93	
£1,741	£64	1984		£86	
£2,052	£87	1985		£87	
£2,797	£91	1986		£92	
£3,567	£113	1987		£73	
£3,367	£120	1988		£63	

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FAMILY MONEY

Unit trust prices every two hours

Investors in some unit trusts should soon be dealing at more up-to-date prices than ever before thanks to new regulations on pricing coming into force next Friday.

Prudential Holborn hopes to be able to set prices every two hours by July 1, and the Perpetual group believes it may be able to offer something similar by the autumn.

Two-hourly valuations will be the nearest thing yet to "real time" valuations, where the price of unit trusts would be constantly up-dated to reflect the changing values of their underlying assets. The Pru believes that eventually it may be possible to revalue units every 20 minutes.

But Alan Wren, Prudential Holborn's chief executive, does not believe more frequent valuations will be possible. He thinks a 20-minute cycle would be "going far enough" towards real time pricing.

He says the Pru has invested £500,000 in developing the systems it needs to offer fresh prices every two hours and believes the company will have the best service in the market after the new regulations come into effect. A main barrier to frequent up-dating of unit prices has been the lack of current price information comprehensive enough for the diversity of investments held by unit trust groups.

"We believe we have the best sources of information available to us now," he says. All unit trust groups have had to take a long hard look at their pricing systems in preparation for the new rules, drafted by the Department of Trade and Industry and to be implemented by the Securities and Investments Board.

Until now companies have generally operated on "historic" pricing, where investors are quoted a price when they ask to deal based on previous valuation, normally carried out the day before.

From next Friday unit trust companies will be able to continue with historic pricing but they have the right to "forward pricing" where all deals are done on the basis of a price that is set later. Thus investors will not be sure what they will pay, or receive, for their units. Groups can also offer a combination of the two systems.

When the new rules are in force, the unit price quoted in the newspapers will cease to be an accurate guide to the price at which you will be dealing. Companies are obliged to publish prices regularly but these will normally be way out of date by the time the investor comes to deal.

Even though a company can continue to operate historic pricing as its general system for dealing under the new rules, it must allow investors to deal at a forward price if they ask. And if managers can see that the value of their units would have moved by 2 per cent or more they must switch to forward pricing.

Forward pricing is not completely new to the industry. Last October many groups



switched to this system when the markets were diving. At that time it was impossible to quote a price for units that reflected the true value of the underlying equities. It was not a popular move with investors who wanted to sell before they incurred more losses.

The choice offered to groups by the new regulations has meant they have adopted different policies. Some companies are offering forward pricing, some historic and some a mixture. Before dealing investors will have to check with the unit trust company or with their intermediary, which system the managers are using. This is bound to be confusing.

With its two-hourly valuations, the Prudential will allow people to deal at an historic price, based on the most recent valuation, or a forward price, based on the next one.

Save & Prosper, like a number of other groups, will continue to offer mainly historic pricing. Most of its trusts will be valued at 9.05am every working day. The European ones will be valued at 8.55am. Investors will be able to deal at the price set then until 5 pm. Instructions to deal received after that will be executed at the next morning's price.

Ken Emery, of S&P, says: "The typical UK investor has had 50-odd years of dealing at a known price. To suddenly say that we will only deal at tomorrow's price would be a dramatic change."

The likely opposition of investors to forward pricing was the main argument put forward by the industry last year against a Securities and Investments Board proposal for a compulsory switch to this system. But a number of companies are now arguing in its favour. One reason is that under the new system managers have much less room for manoeuvre over the way they manage their own books to create new units or liquidate unwanted ones. The old system was open to abuse, allowing managers to manipulate it to their own advantage and this was a main reason for the reorganization of the pricing regime.

Under the new system, however, there is a greater risk of loss to the managers if they do not judge the demand for

new units correctly while operating historic pricing.

"If the market is falling there is no way the manager will go short unless he is going to risk losing money," says Geoffrey Davies, a sales manager at Kleinwort Barrington. "He will have to go to forward pricing."

Kleinwort Barrington is opting for forward pricing, with units being valued at 11am every morning. There will be a two-hour period after the valuation in which investors can deal on a historic price — the one set at 11am.

At S&P Mr Emery concedes that historic pricing will be more risky now but says the group has the resources to finance this. S&P also thinks there is a big marketing advantage in being able to offer historic pricing.

Gartmore is going for forward pricing with units valued every day at noon. All deals done in the previous 24 hours will be executed at that price.

Gartmore believes forward pricing is the fairest system for investors, and for fund managers and administrators it is "simple and accurate, providing easier control".

This week the Securities and Investments Board proposed an amendment to its rule book to remove an anomaly that, technically, might have prevented investors from exercising their right to deal at a forward price on request.

The rules allow for managers to refuse forward pricing for a time during valuation. Because of a weakness in the drafting managers might have been able to extend the period for much longer than intended and it is now proposed that the hiatus should be no longer than two hours.

Maria Scott

HOW THE NEW RULES AFFECT YOU

July 1 brings the implementation of a second raft of investor protection rules under the Financial Services Act. The effects are as follows:

● The claims that can be made in direct mail promotions — junk mail — for investment products will be tightened up. Companies will have to be much more circumspect in the way they use past performance figures to promote their products.

● Companies marketing life assurance policies and unit trusts will have to give customers more information about their products so that investors have a clear idea of any risks involved. The penalties for early surrender on life policies must be spelled out. There are strict rules about the way the growth of funds can be projected. Standard calculations must be used.

● When projecting the growth of endowment policies two rates must be used and the lower and more conservative of these, 7 per cent a year, is likely to show that low-cost endowments, the most common type of policy now used to repay mortgages, may not produce the full amount

needed to repay the loan.

● Unit trust groups will be allowed to sell units through cold-calling for the first time while life assurance companies retain the right to cold-call.

● Investors will have a 14-day cooling-off period, in which time they can back out of an agreement to buy unit trusts or a life assurance policy. However, investors cannot be refunded for any losses they might have incurred on unit

trusts or unbalanced portfolios through normal market movements in that time. To have an insurance policy, however, different rules apply. Investors have 14 days to decide whether to accept or reject a policy.

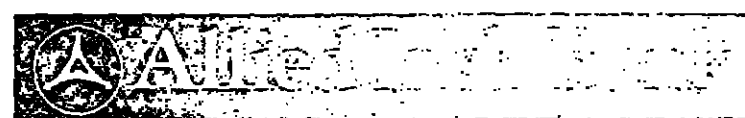
● Where intermediaries are recommending endowment policies and pension products to a member of the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Commission (LURC), they

will be obliged to declare the fact that the LURC is a new body and that the exact details of its powers are not yet known.

● If anyone who deals with a stock broker or investment adviser should also have received a recent approval from the LURC, the broker or adviser should have been notified of this by the LURC. If not, investors do not have to have replied to the notification by that date.

Interest Rate Change

Allied Irish Banks plc announce the effect from close of business on 23.6.88, its Base Rate was increased from 6.25% to 9.00% p.a.



Head Office — Britain: 100, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3DF

71% growth in only twelve months is quite acceptable.

71% growth in the last twelve months is quite remarkable.

Last October taught investors the following valuable lesson: When the Stock Markets fall, investors almost invariably lose money.

Fortunately, the Commodity Markets work on a very different principle.

No matter whether Commodity prices are rising or falling, astute investors can actually make money.

Commodities: The Track Record.

The world's Commodity Markets have been producing dramatic profits for centuries.

More importantly, those profits can be unlimited and dwarf the returns that you may be accepting from shares or unit trusts.

Yet, for over 120 years, Rudolf Wolff & Co has been reluctant to recommend Commodities to the private investor.

While the markets are large, often extremely fast moving and can open the way for spectacular rewards, there has traditionally been an equally high risk of loss.

That risk, we felt, was too great for the average private investor.

Instead, since Rudolf Wolff was founded in 1866, we have reserved our investment advice and expertise for major corporate and institutional clients.

Today, however, sophisticated trading techniques have been developed which can significantly limit the risk.

Even with this safeguard, the potential for unlimited profit remains undiminished.

These factors, combined with the levels of expertise developed by Rudolf Wolff over 120 years, have created the ideal circumstances for the development of the Nimrod trading system.

The Nimrod Account.

Last June, Rudolf Wolff introduced a new investment system, known as Nimrod.

It is a managed account specifically designed for those who wish to share in the profits that can be made in Commodities yet wish to delegate all decision making to a highly qualified team of professionals.

By investing in the Nimrod Account, you can take advantage of the wealth of experience Rudolf Wolff has amassed over 120 years of Commodity trading and therefore require little or no knowledge of the markets yourself.

The Nimrod Account aims to produce maximum profits by investing in a carefully selected range of Commodities traded on the world's major markets.

The markets themselves cover the world's most essential raw materials (from Gold, Copper, Aluminium and Zinc to Agricultural Commodities and Oil) as well as the global Currency and Financial Futures sectors.

The precise mix of Commodities in the portfolio can be varied as and when market conditions around the world dictate.

£20,000 invested in the Nimrod Account in June 1987 has grown, on average, to £34,200 in the last 12 months.

That represents an average growth of almost 6% per month.

120 years of experience seems to be paying rather handsome dividends.

In this way your investment can be moved to ensure that you are always investing in buoyant markets where the potential for profit is greatest.

How well the Nimrod system has performed can be seen from the following example:

The Record So Far.

£20,000 invested with Rudolf Wolff in the Account in June 1987 grew, on average, to £34,200 by the end of May this year.

That equals a very healthy 71% growth in just twelve months. Or put another way, an average return of nearly 6% every month.

During the black months of October to December last year, the Nimrod Account still produced over 15% profit: a monthly average growth of over 5% for our investors.

Nevertheless, it should be emphasised that past results are not necessarily a guide to future performance and prospective investors should note that an investment in the Nimrod Account can fluctuate in money terms and there is no guarantee that you will get back the amount you have invested.

The Prospects For Future Growth.

Throughout the world, increased demand for raw materials and shortages in supply are causing many Commodity prices to rise sharply.

At the same time, greater price volatility in the still unstable financial markets has opened up new possibilities for producing maximum profits.

Today, Commodities worth millions of pounds are traded daily on the exchanges in Europe, America, Japan, Australia and throughout Asia.

Indeed, the total turnover on these exchanges now surpasses that of the world's Stock Markets combined.

The Nimrod Account is free to invest in all or any of these dynamic markets.

And, as the potential for growth in the world's economy, demand and further investment opportunities can be expected to continue.

Investment Experience.

Rudolf Wolff & Co Ltd established the Private Client Department to provide investors with the exceptionally high level of skills and expertise that are required for success in the Commodity markets.

The Private Client Department monitors the world's markets for you via a global network buying and selling on your behalf, acting on worldwide trends and taking care of all the administration and paperwork.

You will, of course, be able to discuss strategy and your particular investment aims with us at all times.

The Minimum Investment.

The minimum investment is £20,000 (or foreign currency equivalent).

There is no minimum investment period and you are free to take profits or reinvest your funds at any time. Detailed statements will be sent showing the progress of your account and enabling you to make any transaction made on your behalf.

How to Invest.

Simply return the coupon or telephone the Private Client Department on 01-425 8755.

We will then send you full details of the Nimrod Account, and literature explaining how the Commodity markets operate and how they can be made to work to your advantage.

Rudolf Wolff & Co Ltd, Planning House, 51-53 Fenchurch Street, London EC3A 3DF. Telephone 01-425 8755.

The Private Client Department

The Rudolf Wolff & Co Ltd, The Private Client Department, Planning House, 51-53 Fenchurch Street, London EC3A 3DF.

Please send me further information on the Nimrod Account.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____

Signature _____

Date _____

A Member of the International Commodity Brokers and Dealers Association (ICBDA)

Foreign UK Residents

Important news for tax-paying executives

As a foreign national working in the UK it is important that you ensure your financial affairs are properly structured to take advantage of all the favourable tax concessions available while you have a non UK domicile.

Royal Trust Bank in Jersey understands these needs and offers a wide range of tax efficient financial services ideal for the foreign executive working in the UK. These services include:

● A wide range of deposit accounts in Sterling, U.S. or Canadian Dollars paying competitive rates of interest without deduction of any tax.

● Offshore residential mortgages for UK properties taking advantage of income accumulated outside the UK.

● A comprehensive Royal Trust Tax Guide, prepared in conjunction with international accountants Deloitte Haskins and Sells, clarifying the position of the foreign executive working in the UK in relation to the UK tax system.

As a foreign UK resident you need to make the most of your money. For more information please send for a copy of Royal Trust's specialist financial services leaflet and tax guide for foreign UK residents or contact Dianne Gollop in Jersey (0534) 27441 - today.



Royal Trust Bank (Jersey) Limited's paid up capital and reserves were £15,430,000 on 30 November 1987 and its principal place of business is in Jersey.

Copies of the latest audited accounts available on request from the Managing Director.

Deposits made with offices of Royal Trust Bank (Jersey) Limited in Jersey are not covered by the Deposit Protection Scheme under the Banking Act 1987.

Dianne Gollop, Royal Trust Bank (Jersey) Limited, PO Box 164, Royal Trust House, Colombe, St Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands. Please send me a copy of Royal Trust's specialist financial services leaflet and tax guide for foreign UK residents.

Name _____

Address _____

T.25.6(8)

M&G
WINNER OF THE
MONEY OBSERVER
1987 PREMIER
UNIT TRUST GROUP
AWARD

3 UNIT TRUSTS

With over one thousand unit trusts available and more being launched each month, how do you know which to choose? In reality there are only three basic types of unit trust, and M&G has an outstandingly successful example of each:

Recovery Fund for capital growth, Dividend Fund for an increasing income, and SECOND General for a balance between income and growth.

You should remember that new funds or funds which suffer a change of management are likely to be more of a gamble than those which can point to a long and successful record. M&G's investment team has remained largely unchanged for many years, and our long-term performance record reflects this. Past performance cannot be a guarantee for the future, but it is usually the best measure you have of a fund's likelihood of achieving its objective.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up. This means that unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

Growth RECOVERY FUND

M&G Recovery Fund is probably the most successful unit trust ever launched and the table below shows just how well it has achieved its aim of capital growth. The Fund buys the shares of companies which have fallen on hard times. Losses must be expected when a company fails to recover but the effect of a turnaround can be dramatic.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £5,000 invested at the launch of M&G Recovery Fund on 31st May 1969, with net income reinvested.			
Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G RECOVERY	F.T. ORDINARY INDEX	BUILDING SOCIETY
23 May '69	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000
1970	5,880	4,285	5,398
1975	13,200	5,560	7,330
1980	52,280	8,644	10,770
1985	135,400	24,737	16,202
22 JUN '88	284,400	34,702	19,453*

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (Source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Recovery figures are all realisation values. An investment of £5,000 in M&G Recovery Fund on 22nd June 1983 would have grown to £17,932 by 22nd June 1988 with net income reinvested. *Estimated.

FURTHER INFORMATION: On 22nd June 1988 offered prices and estimated gross current yields were:

	Income	Accumulation	Yield	Spread
Recovery	555.4p	750.9p	3.38%	5.44%
Dividend	567.7p	1791.0p	4.84%	5.44%
SECOND	966.8p	2009.8p	3.11%	6.54%

The prices are calculated as at 9.15 am each business day. Prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times. The spread is the difference between the "offered price" (at which you buy units) and the "bid price" (at which you sell). We have a discretion to vary the pricing basis of the units and also the spread within a range, calculated in accordance with statutory regulations. An annual charge of 5% is included in the offered price. An annual charge of up to 1% of each fund's value - currently 1% for Recovery and SECOND and 1.5% for Dividend - plus VAT is deducted from gross income. Income for Accumulation units is reinvested to increase their value and for income units it is distributed net of basic rate tax on the following dates:

	Recovery	Dividend	SECOND
Distributions	20 Feb, 20 Aug, 20 Nov	15 Jan, 15 May, 15 Sep	15 Feb, 15 Jun, 15 Oct

Applications required by 23 Dec '88 18 Nov '88 9 Dec '88 for next distribution on 20 Feb '89 15 Jan '89 15 Feb '89

Capital gains tax 1988/89. An individual's first £5,000 of realised capital gains will be exempt from tax. Gains in excess of £5,000 will be added to the individual's other income and taxed at the rates of tax applicable. Gains arising before 31st March 1982 are not now subject to capital gains tax and gains since 31st March 1982 are subject to indexation relief. You can buy or sell units on any business day. Contracts for purchase or sale will be due for settlement by the date shown on the contract note. The Trustee for Dividend and Recovery is Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited and for SECOND is Lloyds Bank Plc. The Funds are all wide-range investments and are authorised under the Financial Services Act 1986.

Income DIVIDEND FUND

If you need income which will grow over the years M&G Dividend Fund could be your ideal investment. The Fund invests in a wide range of ordinary shares and aims to provide above average and increasing income and a yield about 50% higher than the F.T. Actuaries All-Share Index.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. £5,000 invested in income units at the launch of M&G Dividend Fund on 6th May 1964, compared with a similar investment in a Building Society.			
Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G DIVIDEND	BUILDING SOCIETY	M&G DIVIDEND
6 May '64	—	—	£5,000
1965	£198	£189	5,100
1970	231	247	5,380
1975	434	361	5,150
1980	890	517	5,000
1985	1,139	435	5,000
22 JUN '88	1,840	327*	53,680

NOTES: All income figures shown are net of basic rate tax. The Building Society income figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (Source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G Dividend figures are all realisation values. £5,000 invested in M&G Dividend Fund income units on 22nd June 1983 would have produced an income of £457 in 1988 and the capital would have grown to £11,320 by 22nd June 1988. *Estimated for the year.

Balanced SECOND GENERAL

M&G SECOND General Trust Fund aims for consistent growth of both capital and income and has a 32-year performance record which is second to none. It has a wide spread of shares mainly in British companies and expected yield in line with the F.T. Actuaries All-Share Index.

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE TABLE. Value of £5,000 invested at the launch of M&G SECOND General on 5th June 1956, with net income reinvested.			
Year ended 31 DECEMBER	M&G SECOND	F.T. ORDINARY INDEX	BUILDING SOCIETY
5 June '56	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000
1960	9,760	10,040	5,835
1965	15,660	13,115	6,985
1970	23,240	15,270	8,712
1975	39,920	19,810	11,829
1980	97,700	30,800	17,380
1985	277,000	88,120	26,147
22 JUN '88	464,460	123,620	31,393*

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of a Building Society Share Account (Source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). M&G SECOND General figures are all realisation values. An investment of £5,000 in M&G SECOND General on 22nd June 1983 would have grown to £12,741 by 22nd June 1988 with net income reinvested. *Estimated.

M&G Securities Limited, M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Tel: (0245) 266266.

INVESTMENT FROM £1,000

To: M&G SECURITIES LIMITED, M&G HOUSE, VICTORIA ROAD, CHELMSFORD CM1 1FB. Please invest the sum(s) indicated below in the Fund(s) of my choice (minimum investment in each Fund: £1,000) in ACCUMULATION/INCOME units (delete as applicable) or Accumulation units will be issued for Recovery and SECOND and Income units will be issued for Dividend) at the price ruling on receipt of this application. DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY.

A contract note will be sent to you stating exactly how much you own and the settlement date. Your certificate will follow shortly. In entering into this contract with M&G you will not have any right to cancel the contract under the Financial Services (Cancellation) Rules 1988.

RECOVERY (ACCUM.)	£	-00
DIVIDEND (ACCUM.)	£	-00
SECOND (ACCUM.)	£	-00

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

MEMBER OF MRO AND LAUTRO, MEMBER OF IFA

GCZ

Registered in England No. 90776 Reg. Office: Three Queens, Lower Hill Lane, E20 1QJ. This offer is not available to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

MAKE STOCKMARKET FLUCTUATIONS WORK FOR YOU WITH M&G'S UNIT TRUST SAVINGS PLAN FROM £25 A MONTH

If you had chosen fifteen years ago to save £25 a month in a building society, and had left the interest to accumulate, by 1st June 1988 your total outlay of £4,500 would have built up to £8,606. On the other hand, if you had chosen to save the same amount each month in one of our larger unit trusts, M&G SECOND GENERAL Trust Fund, you would have built up an investment worth £25,755, an extra £17,149.

You can start an M&G Unit Trust Savings Plan with as little as £25. You need not subscribe regularly but we strongly recommend that you do so, by completing the Bankers Order form. By saving a regular amount you make fluctuations in the stockmarket work to your advantage because more units are bought when their price is low than when it is high.

Unit trusts are an excellent method of investing in the various stockmarkets of the world, and are ideal for regular investment over the longer term. They are not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

PERFORMANCE FIGURES TO 1 JUNE 1988

£25 A MONTH	5 YEARS 1 Jan 1983 to 1 Jan 1988	10 YEARS 1 Jan 1978 to 1 Jan 1988
Amount paid in	1,500	3,000
M&G Recovery	2,884	10,540
M&G Dividend	2,636	10,626
M&G SECOND	2,385	9,263
Building Society	1,828	4,584

All performance figures include income reinvested net of basic rate tax. The figures for the M&G Funds are all realisation values. The Building Society figures are based on the average rate of Building Society Share Account (Source: Central Statistical Office - Financial Statistics). You should remember that past performance is no guarantee for the future.

Your Savings Plan subscriptions go into Accumulation units of the Fund you choose and net income is automatically reinvested. Further details of the Funds and the Rules of the Plan are available on request. All the Funds are wide-range investments and are authorised under the Financial Services Act 1986.

The only charges are those you normally pay with unit trusts - 5% included in the initial price of units and up to 1% annually for management. There are no extra charges for this Savings Plan.

You can vary the amount you pay and you are free to cash in your accumulated investment, or part of it, at any time without penalty. The securities in a unit trust are held in safe custody by the Trustee (one of the major banks). You can follow the progress of your plan by looking up the price of units and the current yield in the Financial Times or other leading newspapers. You buy units at the "offer" price and sell at the "bid" price.

SAVINGS PLANS FOR CHILDREN
The minimum age for the Unit Trust Savings Plan is 14, but accounts for younger children can be opened in the name of an adult and designated with the child's full name.

To: M&G SECURITIES LIMITED, M&G HOUSE, VICTORIA ROAD, CHELMSFORD CM1 1FB.

I WISH TO SUBSCRIBE £ (min .00 £25) each month to the M&G Unit Trust Savings Plan and I enclose a cheque (made payable to M&G Securities Limited) for my first subscription of £ (you may wish to start your plan with a lump sum).

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

NO EXTRA CHARGES

BANKERS ORDER DO NOT DETACH FROM ENROLMENT FORM

TO: _____

YOUR BANK: _____

PLEASE pay to National Westminster Bank PLC, 181 Molesden Street, Chelmsford CM2 0UN (Branch Code 60-05-46) Account No. 55712270 for the credit of M&G Securities Limited (SAVINGS PLAN ACCOUNT), stating

Account No. (LEAVE BLANK) _____ the sum of £ (00) on the _____ day of _____ 19____ and continue to pay that amount on the _____ day of each month/quarter until further order in writing from me, and debit my account with you from time to time with such payments FROM (SURNAME) _____ AND INITIALS _____

ADDRESS: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

THE M&G GROUP

FAMILY MONEY

The shares to shun

British investors who are offered shares in two companies being promoted by Dublin share dealers Bailey McMahon should think twice before parting with their money.

Shares in both MOR Music Ltd, a south-west London music publishing business, and Daytona Spyder Motor Corporation, a Miami sports car manufacturer, are being marketed on the basis of false or misleading information.

According to Bailey McMahon salesmen who telephone potential investors in Britain, MOR Music Ltd. has a great future ahead of it.

● The comedian Jimmy Tarbuck is said to have taken a stake.

● MOR is claimed to have signed up a successful Eurovision Song Contest entrant.

● MOR shares are going to be quoted on the London Stock Exchange.

All these statements are untrue.

Daytona Spyder Motor Corporation is equally said to be heading for big profits.

● Potential investors are shown a "secret" agreement between the company and its marketing agents.

● Half a million shares are said to be on offer.

● Daytona shares are going to be quoted on the New York Stock Exchange.

Again, the truth is substantially different.

Bailey McMahon operates from well located premises in Dublin. Under the laws of the Republic of Ireland anybody can set up in business as a share-dealer. No licence is needed except to trade in government securities, and it is not necessary to join the stock exchange.

Nevertheless, the Office of Consumer Affairs, the Republic's equivalent to the Office of Fair Trading, has recently been taking an interest in Bailey McMahon's sales methods - though apparently without receiving much encouragement from the company itself.

Last week the Director of Consumer Affairs obtained summonses against Bailey McMahon, and two of its senior staff alleging obstruction of its investigations into allegations that the company

'McMahon are no longer selling stock for Daytona'

has used deceptive practices to market shares.

The case is scheduled for hearing in the Dublin District Court on July 19, but in the meantime Bailey McMahon has hit back with an application to the High Court for an injunction restraining the Director of Consumer Affairs from allegedly exceeding his authority.

No date has yet been fixed for this case to be heard.

The Dublin authorities are believed to be concerned at the business background of Bailey McMahon's American managing director John Tobias.

In 1972 Mr Tobias was vice-president of a Florida company, American Agromatics, that marketed investments in orange groves.

Mr Tobias and the company faced legal action from the watchdog Securities and Exchange Commission, which alleged that they were using unlawful sales methods, including the publication of a prospectus containing false

information.

The New York Stock Exchange has no record of any application pending for Daytona.

Bailey McMahon's two ventures at the moment are both said to be aimed at raising funds for new companies.

Bailey McMahon is offering 500,000 shares in Daytona Spyder at \$4.45 a share - but this week the vice-president of the Miami company said he had severed links with Bailey McMahon almost a month ago.

John Prendergast told *The Times*: "They are no longer selling stock for us and in fact, we are no longer offering this stock. We are offering a convertible stock instead."

"Bailey McMahon was selling stock but our agreement was that they would raise a certain amount, which they did not do, and we ended the agreement three or four weeks ago."

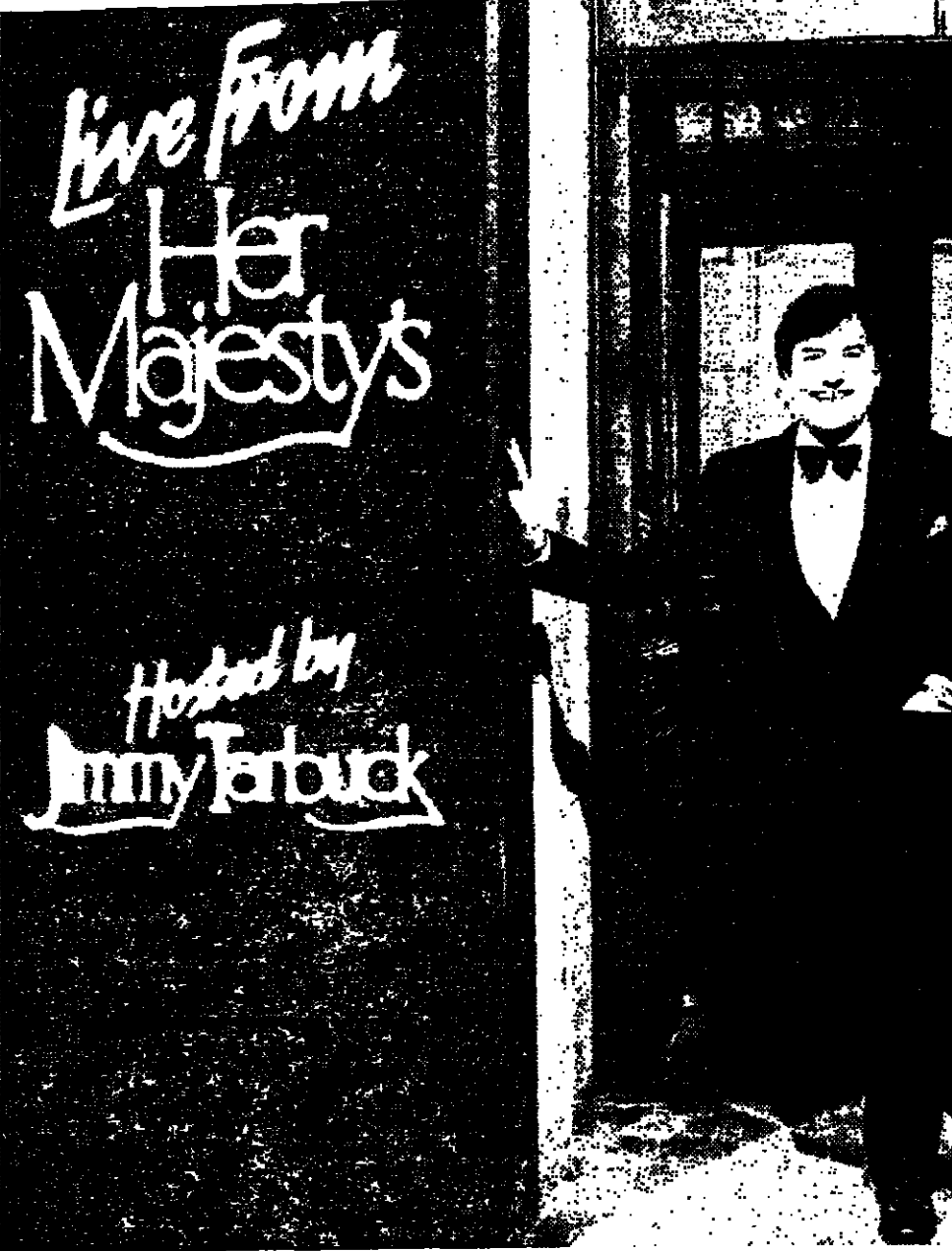
The contract between Daytona Spyder and a Florida wholesaler, described by Bailey McMahon as confidential information, is, Mr Prendergast says, perfectly public.

Co-operation among police, insurers and public has been simplified in the US by IFAR, the New York-based International Foundation for Art Research.

IFAR has direct links with Interpol, the major auction houses and members of the insurance industry, and maintains a comprehensive register of all reported art thefts.

Now a similar but more sophisticated computerized register of stolen art is being set up by the Art Trade Liaison Committee in London, representing the art and antiques trade associations, major auction houses, IFAR and members of the insurance industry.

Everything already on the IFAR register will be put on to



Tarbuck, in his TV show last year: "He has no involvement in MOR," says his manager

and misleading statements.

And Mr Tobias is a long-time business associate of Ed Markus, an American who was sentenced to five years imprisonment in England in 1973 for his role in a phoney investment company called Agri Fund, which cost investors £3 million.

After his release from prison Markus set up Mr Pizza Man International, a Dublin company with a subsidiary in the south-west London suburb of Kew.

Markus's boardroom colleagues in his new venture were Mr Tobias and Lord Spens (the late father of the current Lord Spens), who was jailed for 30 months in 1974 for theft and fraud.

Mr Pizza Man International was struck off by the Dublin Registrar of Companies two months ago for non-submission of statutory annual returns.

Bailey McMahon's two ventures at the moment are both said to be aimed at raising funds for new companies.

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tona Spyder shares to be quoted, despite the claims by Bailey McMahon that investors will be able to sell their shares on the exchange.

An identical claim about the British company MOR Music is equally untrue. The Stock Exchange in London has no knowledge of the company and it has not applied for its shares to be traded publicly.

Bailey McMahon is marketing between one million and two million shares at 25p each.

MOR Music does exist, however, and as a small company in a tough industry it has good credentials. Its chair-

man is Glen Mason, a hit singer of the 1950s, with two Royal Command performances and an Ivor Novello Award to his credit.

And the company does have a genuine link with Jimmy Tarbuck. Mr Mason provides the theme music for the Yorkshire Television programme *Tarby's Frame Game*, and a Jimmy Tarbuck record album is planned.

However, Peter Prichard, spokesman, says Bailey McMahon's claim that the comedian has put money into MOR Music is false.

"I am his manager and I know nothing about it," he said. "I have spoken to Jimmy and he has known Glen Mason for a long time, but he is not involved in MOR Music."

Mr Mason himself confirmed this. "Jimmy has no involvement whatsoever," he said. "He has no money in it, he has no shares, he is not a director. The only association

with Jimmy is his association with me."

And what of Bailey McMahon's claim that MOR Music has Eurovision Song Contest entrants Jay-Jay on its books?

"No, no, no," insists Mr Mason. "Jay-Jay are very new. Their first record is just coming out. They are an exciting young talent but they have never entered the Eurovision Song Contest."

Mason said that the arrangements for the share issue had been made by a former director of MOR Music, an American businessman Dan Laymon.

Mr Laymon, who was in Florida on business this week and cannot be contacted for comment, is also a director of two new British companies, Morgan Francis Ltd and T&I Investments Ltd.

Morgan Francis has applied for membership of the Securities Association, one of the investment industry watchdog bodies set up under the Financial Services Act.

And T&I Investments has applied to join the Association of Futures Brokers and Dealers, the regulatory body for the commodities and futures industry.

Both applications were made recently and their applications are still being processed.

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SPORTING TIMES



SPECIAL OFFER!

No order against assets outside jurisdiction

iction

His Lordship did not accept that argument. It went against the grain of the English law, which, as *Ashiani* showed, was to confine a *Mareva* order to English assets. That being its proper scope, it was not justified simply because *Mareva* order would now be recognized in the Convention countries.

Lord Justice Dillon appeared to have been of that view in the context of the Foreign Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Act 1933; see *Ashiani* (in *app*) at [158].

The position was that practice, save in exceptional circumstances, confined a *Mareva* to English assets. It was an omission of the English law, which was not to be corrected, no step towards discharging that omission was taken by showing that nowadays a

considering whether, although there were no exceptional circumstances that justified word-wide *Mareva*, there were yet circumstances that justified an EEC *Mareva*. His Lordship did not think so.

The considerations weighed against a world-wide *Mareva* also operated against a *Mareva*. It followed against the Mareva order now to be made, that it not extend to the Continental countries.

Solicitors: Lovell White Durrant; Hopkins & Wood.

relevant

25, 1987 to sell a piece of land known as the former Marshall branch library in Trafalgar Street, Burnley, to a rival bidder. Having received a higher offer from the applicants.

HIS LORDSHIP said that as the facts of a particular transaction should be considered. The local authority here had not considered that the applicants were by their efforts and dealings to buy it had caused the sale. It was not told about a rival bidder. Relevant ethical aspects could be considered although the council's desire to avoid

Y B P Tan (Emm); N Tombazis (Trin);
M C Underwood (Churchill); P A Lin

C. Greenwood (Griffiths): A J Hill
(Christ's); J M Vaughan (Sidney); J
Wangermann (Churchill); A J White
(Churchill); T J Wright (Queens): F
Yap (Trini).

Class II (Gr 1): S A B Abdul Ra-

(Churchill): M. Asphan (Enth): D.
Barton (Christ's): J. P. Barton (Jesus):
G. Bell (Robt. M. J. Bennett (Claret F.

[illegible]

G S M Tsui (Pemb); N C Waddington

[illegible]

Murdoch (Selw): R A Nuttall
 (Queens): C J O'Connor (Ennn): H

[illegible]

Salmon makes therapy work

By David Powell

Julie Salmon, Britain's last survivor in either singles, is banking on her consultations with a psychologist to see her through her third round tie against Larisa Savchenko, the No. 13 seed, today.

"I know I can go out there and do well," Salmon said. Those words are evidence that the therapy, which she has been undergoing since September, is proving a success.

Salmon, aged 22, from Brighton, has reached the last 32 despite a world ranking of 194th. She is the lowest rated player left in the women's championship but that will not prevent her from believing she can progress further and improve on her previous best Wimbledon. That was in 1984 when she lost to Kathy Jordan, of the United States, in the third round.

"She has improved technically and is stronger physically but Julie's biggest difference this year has been her mental approach," Jonathan Smith, the former British Davis Cup player who coaches her, said yesterday. "It's been achieved with the help of Alan Fine, a sports psychologist, who worked with me for two years when I was playing."

Against Adriana Villagrán, of Argentina, in the second round, Salmon lost a first set tie-break 7-1 but kept her composure. "I pictured myself winning every point and concentrated really well," she said. Savchenko, aged 21, has a competent all-court game but has no big weapon of which Salmon needs to be afraid.

British women, Jo Durie and Annabel Croft in particular, have acquired a reputation for losing their nerve at Wimbledon. But Salmon welcomes the attention. She hopes that, as the remaining British representative, she will be put on court one or the centre court.

Her second wish is that her achievement might stir interest among the ranks of Brighton footballers. Salmon's most satisfying sporting moment this year, until Wimbledon, was the club's promotion to the second division.

"I tried to get one of their shirts but couldn't," she said. She watches all the matches that her tennis schedule allows. "If any of them want a ticket to come and watch me play I'll get them one."

Wimbledon sounded like an artillery range yesterday. One imagined a series of cave-ins spreading alarm and confusion among the creatures who live in tunnels. Boris Becker, Pat Cash, Ivan Lendl, Tim Mayotte, and Henri Leconte advanced thunderously to the last 16. Their half of the draw echoes with fire-power. The other half does not.

Becker and Cash, who should clash in a quarter-final, played on the adjacent main courts. In moments of calm, both tuned-in to reverberating roars rising beyond the wall. Each must have felt that he was listening to a family argument in the next room — and, sooner or later, would probably have to wade in and settle it.

Cash has not won a tournament since November, which is a long time for a Wimbledon champion to go hungry. But he is a better singles player than his Davis Cup partner, John Fitzgerald, who has shared the Australian, French, and United States doubles titles. Cash won 6-1, 6-2, 6-4. Each put on a dry shirt at the same changeover, a brief display of beefcake that was much to the crowd's liking.

Becker had a 7-6, 6-4, 6-4 win over Sammy Giammalva of Texas, who reached the fourth round in 1985. Giammalva, dark and well muscled, looks the kind of man who should be playing football in Italy rather than tennis at Wimbledon. In the third set Giammalva's left thigh needed strapping. But he played well and gave Becker an awkward match, as the score suggests.

Becker looks larger on court than off it, especially when throwing himself about in the forecourt. At times he raises images of a Pyrenean Mountain Dog, yielding to a sudden craving to turn cartwheels.

Mayotte has played on Courts 2, 13 and 14, a regression that will have to be arrested if he keeps on winning.

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Even so, the mental torment of attempting to concentrate when there is little left in the tank was etched on the face of Sandy Lyle as he departed prematurely by adding a 73 to his opening 77. Lyle has already played in 15 tournaments on the US tour this season and has crossed the Atlantic eight times with four victories, including the US Masters and the British Masters — it is hardly surprising that he is feeling the strain.

"I am glad to get off the golf course," he said. "I feel weak in the head. You can only take so much, and I have had four months of almost consistently being in the front line. I will take the next 10 days off to regain my confidence."

I remain quite convinced that Lyle, who next competes in the Bells Scottish Open on July 6, will be a contender for the Open championship one week later at Royal Lytham and St Anne's.

Meanwhile Faldo, whose aggregate of 138 left him in second place five strokes adrift of Denis Durnan (68), continues to produce high calibre play. He would have been closer to Durnan if he had not taken six at the 17th where he thinned a recovery from a wretched downhill lie from a bunker into a bush. Otherwise Faldo, apart from dropping a stroke at the ninth, could not be faulted. He holed from seven feet for a birdie at the fourth.

Acrobatic Becker hurtles on

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Yesterday he won 6-4, 4-6, 6-2, 6-4 against Joakim Nystrom, whose exemplary returns fitted in neatly with Mayotte's exemplary services. Mayotte battered away with exemplary diligence. He had to. Playing Nystrom is tiring work. The inscrutably placid Swede never looks interested but never loses interest. Beating him is like trying to drown a fish.

Leconte was unapproachable, because his 3-6, 6-1, 7-6, 6-1 win over Barry Moor (one of the few South Africans with an allegiance to Alabama) occurred on Court 13. The environs of that court can make would-be spectators regard sardines with envy.

Leconte told us later that he played three bad sets. "Everything went wrong. I was terrible. I was not moving well. And he's a good player. He doesn't have a big shot but

he always there and he doesn't make mistakes."

Mayotte was not the only American to play the role of Swede-basher. Paul Annacone beat the seeded Jonas Svensson 6-4, 6-2, 3-6, 6-4. Annacone, who reached the quarter-finals as a qualifier in 1984, is renowned for his unusual playing method. His idea of tennis is to play merely one shot a rally (a service or a chipped return) from the baseline. Then he charges to the net and, with a gentle touch, kills anything that moves.

Hana Mandlikova, runner-up in 1981 and 1986, was beaten 6-4, 6-3 by Anne Minter of Melbourne, who dismissed Pam Shriver on her way to the Australian quarter-

finals in January. Minter was the best player in Australia until Mandlikova became an Australian citizen on January 1; and Minter considers that, essentially, the position has not changed.

"I don't think of Hana as an Australian," Minter said yesterday. "She hasn't come up through the junior ranks and hasn't played Federation Cup. It's hard to accept somebody who isn't Australian. If she plays Federation Cup it will be easier."

Mandlikova said that if she played for Australia she would be No. 1. "There's no question about it. You just have to look at the computer rankings. I'm available and I would love to play." Mandlikova has not yet spent enough time in Australia to become part of the scenery. An odd feature of this match was that the umpire, too, was Australian.

Minter won because Mandlikova, the more fluent and punishing shot-maker, was too often wayward, especially on the forehand. Mandlikova's flamboyance had no enduring flame. She lost five of her nine service games. Minter served for the match — she needed five match points — as a televised Australian soap opera mercifully reached its terminal credits.

Barbara Potter, who shocked officials by changing her shirt on court this week, was twice escorted to privacy yesterday. She needed two changes as she beat the Australian Jo-Anne Faull in the third round and was given a time warning after the second.

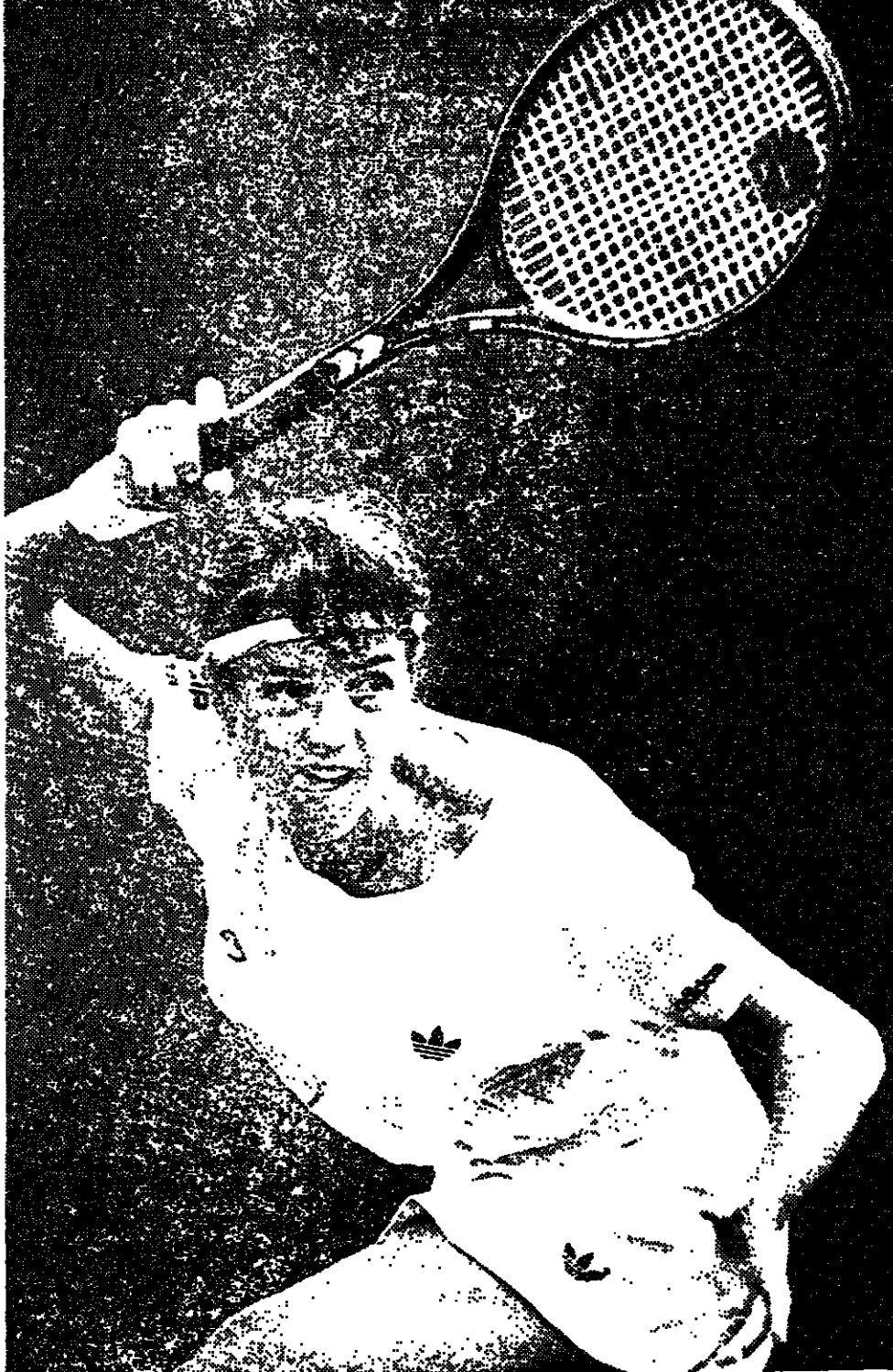
The referee, Alan Mills, explained: "It is up to Miss Potter if she wants to leave the court. But she must be back inside 90 secs. If she is not she will get a time warning and if she is late again she will be penalised a point. She must also inform the umpire of the situation and be accompanied by officials."



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Making a point: Anne Minter, who is determined to remain Australia's top-ranked player

Frailty of the man behind the iron mask

Simon Barnes

Ivan Lendl may be the No.1 player in the world, but Wimbledon has never been part of the real world. So he was forced to play a real fighter, scrambling home in five sets against Michal Štěpánek, who is ranked 47.

The lanky Dutchman is a good player, but in the end yesterday not quite good enough. Lendl shaded it 6-7, 7-6, 6-4, 6-7, 6-1. At the death, Štěpánek's service lost its cutting edge, and that was that.

For it was a match utterly dominated by service. Indeed, the first 26 games all went with service. Without that handy invention of the tie-break, the first set would have been 16-14, and the two players would probably still be at it now at 20-20 in the fourth.

Each man's service was so impregnable that the match became a test of nerve. Lendl lost the first set by double-faulting in the tie-break. But in the second set tie-break, the force was with him. He managed to carve his way into Štěpánek's service, and those screaming Lendl passing shots reappeared in his game.

He won the tie-break 7-2, and the next set broke twice (and was broken once) for his 6-4 win. All over, we thought, but a little shouting. But this was not to be: another 12-game slugfest followed, with scarcely a hint of advantage or escape for either man. Štěpánek held his nerve, serving with power and showing an unexpectedly delicate touch into the forecourt.

But the force departed from Štěpánek in the fifth. A crucial double-fault made it 2-0, and Štěpánek was, at last, wide open.

Lendl took him thankfully. In this exhausting test of the mechanical accuracy of service, it took but a feather to sway the balance one way or the other.

But in the end, you must always fancy Lendl to win when doggedness is the quality required. He kept hammering that service in hard and deep, and in the end, that was enough. But watching Lendl serve is not one of life's easy experiences. Indeed, someone told me the other day that his idea of hell was watching Lendl serve lets through all eternity.

Lendl can slow play down the way Clive Lloyd could slow down a cricket match when his bowlers were firing. At moments of pressure his pre-serve routine gets more and more exaggerated: rearrange the racket strings; hit the shoes to get rid of imaginary debris; take sawdust from the pocket and apply to the racket handle; twiddle the racket; bounce the ball twice; pause;

give an extra hard Paddington Bear stare to the target area and then...ker-blam. Let first service, rearrange the racket strings...

All sportsmen have their little routines, their little patterns of behaviour. Becker serves with melodramatic glee. Connors with a disgusting noise: both are different ways of expressing the personality. Lendl serves like a machine.

Indeed, it seems to be his ambition in life to turn himself into a machine: a honed, beautiful machine, glowing with perfection, incapable of error. He is, everybody tells me, the nicest man, funny, charming, a mind that moves like lightning. He is even something of a renaissance man: he loves and collects Mucha and Lautrec.

But the human side is not permitted on court. Like Steve Davis, Lendl can only function in sporting action when he is the man in the iron mask. Especially at Wimbledon: the tournament that is a constant reproach to him, that is a constant reminder that, for all his three years as No.1, he is still a failure, and will be in his own eyes until he wins here.

Wimbledon is quirky, bizarre, and has its own rules. The Derby is the same: the course is crooked and eccentric, and its hard luck tales are legion. But all the same, the true champions are those that win the Derby. And the same holds good for Wimbledon.

Lendl would give anything to win here, and for that reason he carries on trying to turn himself into a machine. But Wimbledon always exposes his human frailty: his essential imperfection. Yesterday he wobbled, and flinched desperately with defeat. Wimbledon always provokes the ghost in the Lendl machine to show itself: a ghost that seemingly refuses to be exorcised.

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Elegant symbol of bygone age

By Ivo Tennant

West Indian cricket supporters have nothing on the boys of Eton and Harrow when it comes to creating a distracting cacophony. It was ever thus, even when Lord Byron played in 1805, on the first occasion the two schools met at Lord's. It is, today, the oldest fixture to be played there, but it is not, alas, quite the event it was.

There will be no carriages or queues outside the Grace Gates this morning when this year's match begins. For a decade or more, one solitary brown carriage has been stationed at the Nursery end, a symbol of a bygone age. Few Old Etonians and Old Harrovians bother now to wear a morning coat and top hat; the corn-flower will not be seen in many lapels. Jeans are *de rigueur* for the younger old boys.

There will still be champagne, and picnics galore, and pretty girls in Laura Ashley frocks, even though the Dells among them know that the occasion is no longer an integral part of The Season.

Once it had the same cachet as did Ascot and Henley. In the 1930s capacity crowds would attend what was then a two-day match. Even in the 1960s when the crowds began to dwindle — as they did at county championship matches — they were among the most elegant to be seen anywhere in Britain.

"It might be best these days for the match to be played at

Eton have lost only one school match this year but Harrow, who have the more impressive record despite a heavy defeat by Haileybury last week, must be regarded as favourites (George Chesterton writes). Eton beat an Australian touring team from King's School, Parramatta on Thursday to add to victories over Bradford and Charterhouse, while their loss was in a close finish against Radley. Harrow have had wins over Charterhouse, Bradford, Winchester and St Edward's. Eton, the last winners of the fixture, in 1985, have achieved 50 wins in the 152-match series, against Harrow's 44.

Eton or Harrow," Peter Townsend, social editor of *Tatler* and the co-ordinator of lists for debaters, said.

"There are usually so many other things on, such as Wimbledon and private parties, that it is not fashionable to be in central London on a Saturday in June. The boys are greatly privileged still to be able to play a rather low-key match at Lord's."

Now, the match is a one-day affair, yet the crowds are just as boisterous. In 1939, when Harrow beat Eton for the first time since 1908, there was "delicious excitement." Some 8,000 people cheered and fought in front of the pavilion, and there were rumours that the fixture would be discontinued. Fortunately for both schools, a real war broke out.

Last year, there were reports of racist and obscene chanting — which the headmasters of both schools denied.

Should the crowd for this year's match comprise 3,000 boys, parents and others, MCC will be pleased. The boxes will be sold out, for sure, and more money will be made than on any of the Monday of a Middlesex versus Glamorgan match. MCC will most certainly make a profit. The cricket will be of a good standard for schoolboys: these are our most famous public schools, where the game is nurtured.

Famous names learned their cricket there: in the nineteenth century, two great cricketers, Horby and MacLaren, captained Harrow, Lancashire and England. The Stables and the Lyttons were distinguished Eton cricketers. Sir Gubby Allen, Lord Tennyson, Lord Home, F. G. Mann... the list is long.

MCC believe that they should respect tradition and support the game at all levels, even though schools such as Marlborough, Rugby and Tonbridge no longer play at Lord's.

"The boys are conscious that they are privileged to play there," Ian Beer, headmaster of Harrow, said yesterday. "The boys still enjoy it as a social day and regard the sport in which the game is played as being more important than the actual cricket. The match could be held anywhere. I suppose, but we would want to keep it at Lord's."

Dr Eric Anderson, headmaster of Eton, said: "Eton does not feel its reputation damaged as playing at Lord's, but it seems a tremendous loss to the boys and their parents."

Durnian holds off Faldo's challenge

From Mitchell Platts
Golf Correspondent

Nick Faldo yesterday demonstrated that any wounds he may have suffered in the United States earlier this week were only superficial as he produced a second round of 67 in the French Open here yesterday.

Even so, the mental torment of attempting to concentrate when there is little left in the tank was etched on the face of Sandy Lyle as he departed prematurely by adding a 73 to his opening 77. Lyle has already played in 15 tournaments on the US tour this season and has crossed the Atlantic eight times with four victories, including the US Masters and the British Masters — it is hardly surprising that he is feeling the strain.

"I am glad to get off the golf course," he said. "I feel weak in the head. You can only take so much, and I have had four months of almost consistently being in the front line. I will take the next 10 days off to regain my confidence."

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Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
1	453	4	10	472	4
2	179	3	11	420	4
3	361	4	12	268	3
4	392	4	13	454	4
5	218	3	14	217	3
6	435	4	15	418	4
7	218	3	16	211	3
8	435	4	17	211	3
9	379	5	18	261	5
Out	3,329	35	In	3,558	35
Total yardage	7,087		Par	70	

Then at the seventh he hit an immaculate seven-iron from 156 yards to within one foot. The putter has not been Faldo's favourite club this year, so he was delighted to hole from five feet at the 10th, 12 feet at the 12th and 15 feet at the 16th and to two-putt from the back of the green for another birdie at the 18th after reaching the green with a one iron.

Faldo fancied the thought of coming down the last fairway on Sunday alongside Curtis Strange, who beat him in the US Open play-off on Monday. He has one proviso: "This time I want to win," he said.

Durnian will be a foreign name to most, although he thoroughly deserves to be in front. The course is a veritable minefield — Mark James pointed out that he played one shot with the rough tickling his neck — and Durnian linked in the breezy conditions 13 successive pars before he made a two at the 14th and an eagle at the last.

Leading second round scores (68 and under) were: 128: D Durnan, 68; 136: N Faldo, 71, 67, 138: P Senior, 70, 69, 139: J Lyle, 73, 67, 140: R Bell, 74, 66, 141: J Lyle, 73, 67, 142: J Lyle, 73, 67, 143: J Lyle, 73, 67, 144: J Lyle, 73, 67, 145: J Lyle, 73, 67, 146: J Lyle, 73, 67, 147: J Lyle, 73, 67, 148: J Lyle, 73, 67, 149: J Lyle, 73, 67, 150: J Lyle, 73, 67, 151: J Lyle, 73, 67, 152: J Lyle, 73, 67, 153: J Lyle, 73, 67, 154: J Lyle, 73, 67, 155: J Lyle, 73, 67, 156: J Lyle, 73, 67, 157: J Lyle, 73, 67, 158: J Lyle, 73, 67, 159: J Lyle, 73, 67, 160: J Lyle, 73, 67, 161: J Lyle, 73, 67, 162: J Lyle, 73, 67, 163: J Lyle, 73, 67, 164: J Lyle, 73, 67, 165: J Lyle, 73, 67, 166: J Lyle, 73, 67, 167: J Lyle, 73, 67, 168: J Lyle, 73, 67, 169: J Lyle, 73, 67, 170: J Lyle, 73, 67, 171: J Lyle, 73, 67, 172: J Lyle, 73, 67, 173: J Lyle, 73, 67, 174: J Lyle, 73, 67, 175: J Lyle, 73, 67, 176: J Lyle, 73, 67, 177: J Lyle, 73, 67, 178: J Lyle, 73, 67, 179: J Lyle, 73, 67, 180: J Lyle, 73, 67, 181: J Lyle, 73, 67, 182: J Lyle, 73, 67, 183: J Lyle, 73, 67, 184: J Lyle, 73, 67, 185: J Lyle, 73, 67, 186: J Lyle, 73, 67, 187: J Lyle, 73, 67, 188: J Lyle, 73, 67, 189: J Lyle, 73, 67, 190: J Lyle, 73, 67, 191: J Lyle, 73, 67, 192: J Lyle, 73, 67, 193: J Lyle, 73, 67, 194: J Lyle, 73, 67, 195: J Lyle, 73, 67, 196: J Lyle, 73, 67, 197: J Lyle, 73, 67, 198: J Lyle, 73, 67, 199: J Lyle, 73, 67, 200: J Lyle, 73, 67, 201: J Lyle, 73, 67, 202: J Lyle, 73, 67, 203: J Lyle, 73, 67, 204: J Lyle, 73, 67, 205: J Lyle, 73, 67, 206: J Lyle, 73, 67, 207: J Lyle, 73, 67, 208: J Lyle, 73, 67, 209: J Lyle, 73, 67, 210: J Lyle, 73, 67, 211: J Lyle, 73, 67, 212: J Lyle, 73, 67, 213: J Lyle, 73, 67, 214: J Lyle, 73, 67, 215: J Lyle, 73, 67, 216: J Lyle, 73, 67, 217: J Lyle, 73, 67, 218: J Lyle, 73, 67, 219: J Lyle, 73, 67, 220: J Lyle, 73, 67, 221: J Lyle, 73, 67, 222: J Lyle, 73, 67, 223: J Lyle, 73, 67, 224: J Lyle, 73, 67, 225: J Lyle, 73, 67, 226: J Lyle, 73, 67, 227: J Lyle, 73, 67, 228: J Lyle, 73, 67, 229: J Lyle, 73, 67, 230: J Lyle, 73, 67, 231: J Lyle, 73, 67, 232: J Lyle, 73, 67, 233: J Lyle, 73, 67, 234: J Lyle, 73, 67, 235: J Lyle, 73, 67, 236: J Lyle, 73, 67, 237: J Lyle, 73, 67, 238: J Lyle, 73, 67, 239: J Lyle, 73, 67, 240: J Lyle, 73, 67, 241: J Lyle, 73, 67, 242: J Lyle, 73, 67, 243: J Lyle, 73, 67, 244: J Lyle, 73, 67, 245: J Lyle, 73, 67, 246: J Lyle, 73, 67, 247: J Lyle, 73, 67, 248: J Lyle, 73, 67, 249: J Lyle, 73, 67, 250: J Lyle, 73, 67, 251: J Lyle, 73, 67, 252: J Lyle, 73, 67, 253: J Lyle, 73, 67, 254: J Lyle, 73, 67, 255: J Lyle, 73, 67, 256: J Lyle, 73, 67, 257: J Lyle, 73, 67, 258: J Lyle, 73, 67, 259: J Lyle, 73, 67, 260: J Lyle, 73, 67, 261: J Lyle, 73, 67, 262: J Lyle, 73, 67, 263: J Lyle, 73, 67, 264: J Lyle, 73, 67, 265: J Lyle, 73, 67, 266: J Lyle, 73, 67, 267: J Lyle, 73, 67, 268: J Lyle, 73, 67, 269: J Lyle, 73, 67, 270: J Lyle, 73, 67, 271: J Lyle, 73, 67, 272: J Lyle, 73, 67, 273: J Lyle, 73, 67, 274: J Lyle, 73, 67, 275: J Lyle, 73, 67, 276: J Lyle, 73, 67, 277: J Lyle, 73, 67, 278: J Lyle, 73, 67, 279: J Lyle, 73, 67, 280: J Lyle, 73, 67, 281: J Lyle, 73, 67, 282: J Lyle, 73, 67, 283: J Lyle, 73, 67, 284: J Lyle, 73, 67, 285: J Lyle, 73, 67, 286: J Lyle, 73, 67, 287: J Lyle, 73, 67, 288: J Lyle, 73, 67, 289: J Lyle, 73, 67, 290: J Lyle, 73, 67, 291: J Lyle, 73, 67, 292: J Lyle, 73, 67, 293: J Lyle, 73, 67, 294: J Lyle, 73, 67, 295: J Lyle, 73, 67, 296: J Lyle, 73, 67, 297: J Lyle, 73, 67, 298: J Lyle, 73, 67, 299: J Lyle, 73, 67, 300: J Lyle, 73, 67, 301: J Lyle, 73, 67, 302: J Lyle, 73, 67, 303: J Lyle, 73, 67, 304: J Lyle, 73, 67, 305: J Lyle, 73, 67, 306: J Lyle, 73, 67, 307: J Lyle, 73, 67, 308: J Lyle, 73, 67, 309: J Lyle, 73, 6